

Edmonton metr



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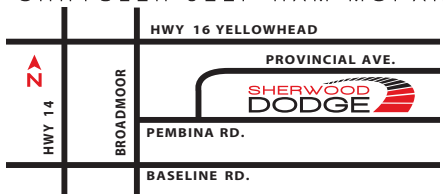
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YES, YOU ARE PAYING FOR HIS MAKEUP ARTIST P.14



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High 18°C/Low 4°C Sun!



Shelter debate long overdue

HOMELESSNESS

Advocates say library policy shows need for conversation

If it wasn't at the Stanley Milner, the impending sleeping ban coming into force May 1 wouldn't be news. But the Stanley Milner is not like most libraries.

Since 2011, the library has relaxed rules to support the city's street population, which often has nowhere else warm to go, as malls, restaurants and shops push them out.

But over that period, said Louise Reimer, director of branch services, Stanley Milner has realized its function as a library is being compromised. "The EPL is a public space for all Edmontonians. But, that said ... it's not intended to be a day shelter."

The numbers the library now deals with are daunting: an outreach program it created with three full-time social workers logged 7,000 interactions with at-risk clients in last year, Reimer said.

"We began to realize that there was a larger societal challenge, and there aren't enough resources available for people who ... don't have a place to sleep."

Brianna Olson, an indigenous social worker with iHuman Youth Society, said staff members at Stanley Milner are "doing the best they can."

Still, Olson worries the library's sleeping ban will push people onto streets. And it's there, she said, that increasingly restrictive bylaws could see people end up not in warm chairs, but in jail cells.

"It's people who are marginalized who are being over-represented by this bylaw enforce-

May 1

Date a sleeping ban goes into effect at Stanley Milner Library.

ment," Olson said, pointing to a new smoking ban in Churchill Square, along with loitering and jaywalking bylaws, which can see people given tickets to up to \$200.

Olson said many of the 500 clients iHuman helps have up to 10 of these tickets. "They're becoming criminalized by these bylaws," she said. "You'll get a warrant, the warrants will build up and, if you're picked up, you'll be brought in. Alberta is one of the few provinces in Canada if you get picked up on (bylaw) tickets you can be incarcerated." TIM QUERENGESSER/METRO



TOPHER SEGIUN/FOR METRO

Cheers to patio weather

Madeline Armstrong and Garry McHugh share a laugh on the patio at Julio's Barrio on Whyte Avenue. Temperatures hit 17 C and more good weather was forecast for the weekend.



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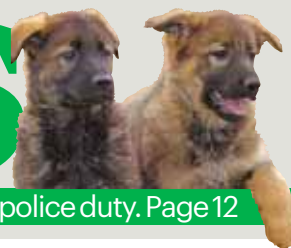
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IN BRIEF

Edmonton's insurance rates high because it's a 'driving' city: Survey

Edmonton motorists pay the most to insure their cars in Alberta according to a just-released survey by Kanetix.ca.

Kanetix, an online resource for comparing insurance rates, puts Edmonton at the top of the heap, based on a 35 year-old driver with a clean driving record. The rate: \$1,237 per year.

St. Albert and Fort McMurray are close behind, while Calgary placed sixth most expensive and Sherwood Park was tenth, at just more than \$1,000.

"I don't see why it's any different in Edmonton versus St. Albert or Sherwood Park," said Sherwood Park resident Ken Adams. "But I'm glad I live where it's cheaper."

Many factors determine a premium, said Janine White of Kanetix.ca. "But Edmonton has a high population density and it's a driving city — the majority commute to work by car, and all those driving hours at peak periods mean a greater chance of collision, and a greater history of claims for the city overall."

White said people can lower their insurance premium by driving safely, bundling home and auto insurance policies, installing winter tires and choosing usage based insurance.

LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

Dinosaurs help attract global students to U of A

EDUCATION

Dino 101 key part of university's future growth

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Jonathan Schaeffer was at a German university recently and overheard students talking about his school. "There I was, in Germany, and came across Dino 101," said Schaeffer, the dean of science at the University of Alberta. "It made my day."

Dino 101 is the U of A's wildly successful Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). At last count, 66,000 people have taken it the four times it has been offered since September 2013.

Its audience numbers are incredibly important for the university. The course's viral popularity has made U of A known globally, Schaeffer said, noting that attracting international students is critical for Canadian universities to balance the books these days.

That's Dino 101's charm: the school's research shows 55 per cent of those who take the course have never heard of the



Phil Currie at work filming a segment for the Dino 101 course. Dino 101 is the U of A's wildly successful online course. At last count, 66,000 people have taken it the four times it has been offered since September 2013. CONTRIBUTED

U of A. "All of a sudden we've reached many tens of thousands of people," Schaeffer said.

Dino 101 has also made professor Phil Currie something akin to an academic rock star. He's 66, soft spoken, has grey hair and he's a paleontologist. But Currie is also now a professor with, essentially, a really in-

formative television show, with students as young as six taking the course (with their parents' help), or passengers on JetBlue flights watching it on syndication, or students chatting about it at German universities.

"Both the on campus and international versions have done amazing things," Currie

said from Cleveland Thursday, where he's giving a talk on dinosaurs. "I certainly see a role for this now (in broadening a university's reach into society.) A couple of years ago I had no idea if it would work."

The popularity of Dino 101 and other MOOCs at the U of A could tempt a school facing

funding cuts to try to raise revenue from it. But Schaeffer said he doesn't want that to happen. There are Dino 101 T-shirts and coffee mugs being sold, but the revenue is small. "There are (other) ways that we could make it a revenue generator on the backs of students, but I've resisted that," he said.

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Students urge peers to vote

POST-SECONDARY

Campaign will remind electorate when it counts



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta students are taking numbers. And emails. And they're doing it get people to vote and make sure post-secondary education has a voice in the coming Alberta election.

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) launched their "Get out the Vote" campaign Thursday, which promises to sign up students and make sure they get to the polls on May 5.

The campaign will take students phone numbers and emails and follow up with them on election day to ensure they have voted. In 2012, a similar campaign signed up 12,000 students.

Navneet Khinda, the incoming president of University of



Navneet Khinda and Cameron McCoy, with the Council of Alberta University Students, launch their Get out the Vote campaign during a news conference at the University of Alberta Thursday.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO EDMONTON

Alberta Students' Union and chair of CAUS in the last election, said even a simple email can be enough to get students to the polls.

"We saw a huge increase in the students who went out to the polls because they were

contacted just once," she said.

This time, Khinda said the group will to follow up several times with students and they believe they can get even more to the polls.

She said the possibility of major tuition hikes alone

should be enough to get students to engaged.

"We have had no solid commitment from the government so far that they're going to keep the cap and that's so frightening for us, because in provinces without a cap

"We saw a huge increase in the students who went out to the polls because they were contacted just once."

Navneet Khinda, the incoming president of University of Alberta Students' Union

tuition has doubled or tripled." Cameron McCoy, president of the Student Association of MacEwan University, said problems students face will ripple through the economy if debt levels rise and fewer Albertans get a university education.

"When you are looking at the issues that are affecting you you are really talking about the issues that are affecting all of Alberta," he said.

The campaign will be in place at the University of Alberta and MacEwan, as well as the University of Lethbridge, University of Calgary and Mount Royal University.

IN BRIEF

EPS asks again for more downtown police

Edmonton police will ask, again, for 40 new officers to patrol the downtown arena district, a proposal which would lead to higher property taxes this year. The police asked for the officers last year during budget deliberations, but council voted down the request. If council is persuaded to change its mind next week, it would cost \$2.4 million this year. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Missing man linked to 'high risk' activities believed victim of foul play

Police are suspecting foul play in the disappearance of an Edmonton man missing for nearly a month and believed to be linked to "high risk" activities. Cuong Tu, known as Charlie Tu, was last seen walking out of Visions Electronics in Edmonton on March 11. Police said in a release Thursday that they suspect foul play in Tu's disappearance and are looking for the black 2013 Dodge Ram truck he was driving. Tu, 31, is five-foot-two and 110 pounds. TIM QUERENGESSER/METRO

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ECONOMY

Rivals present alternate solutions

Alberta's opposition parties, challenged by Premier Jim Prentice to provide their own plans to fix the province's embattled economy, fired back Thursday.

Wildrose Leader Brian Jean, in Edmonton, unveiled a blueprint to slash management jobs in government and health care, while deferring some capital projects and avoiding tax hikes.

NDP Leader Rachel Notley told an audience in Lethbridge that her team would create an estimated 27,000 new jobs by launching a tax credit to create jobs.

Prentice has said his budget includes difficult but necessary measures to ensure that day-to-day spending on people and programs isn't cut every time the price of oil falls.

But Jean said Prentice has failed to attack waste and excess in government ranks and has instead chosen to "punish" Alberta families with tax hikes.

"Our government is bloated because after 40 years (of PC government), too many executive offices and agencies are filled with PC cronies," said Jean.

He said the Wildrose would cut one-third of government managers and half the managers in Alberta Health Services.

In Lethbridge, Notley said the NDP's Job Creation Tax Credit would encourage new hiring by refunding 10 per cent of each new employee's salary to a maximum salary of \$50,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ELECTION 2015 RIDING PROFILE: EDMONTON-SOUTHWEST

Schools a key issue with boom in young families

POLITICS

Nine new facilities are slated for area



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Angela Meier's two kids aren't yet in a classroom, but she wants them in one near her home when they're ready to go to school.

The Edmonton-Southwest resident said candidates stopping at her door during the election campaign will have to explain their plans to get her vote.

"They're definitely going to have to talk about schools and education," she said.

The riding, just south of the Henday, incorporates several new communities and is flooded

36

A total of 36 schools are promised to be built in Edmonton before the start of the 2018 school year.

with young families — so much so that there are nine new schools planned before 2018, more than



The government is building hundreds of new schools over the next three years, but funding for enrolment growth was limited in the recent budget. TOPHER SEGUIN/FOR METRO

anywhere else in Edmonton.

Meier said without the promised schools, her kids will face a lengthy commute to learn; with them, their lives will change.

"My kids will actually be able to walk to school, which is just phenomenal."

Nathan Ip, the Edmonton Public Schools trustee for the area, knows the new schools are a hot-button issue because constituents regularly send him photos of the construction sites,

asking about progress.

"My immediate concern is just making sure those schools open on time. If it doesn't, it will affect our growth implementation plan," he said.

The provincial budget virtually froze education funding over the next three years, with limited money for enrolment growth.

Ip said there is plenty of time before the schools open to deal with that, but if the funding

doesn't grow, it will be hard for the board to staff the new schools appropriately.

"If that cap continues, I think there will be some concerns because, obviously, we are funded on a per-pupil basis," he said.

Matt Jeneroux, the incumbent MLA and Progressive Conservative candidate for the riding, said in 2012 that voters wanted to know when they could expect a school to open, and now he can answer

+ CANDIDATES

Edmonton-Southwest

- Matt Jeneroux, PC
- Thomas Dang, NDP
- Rudy Arcilla, Liberals
- Krishna Tailor, Alberta Party
- The Wildrose party has not yet named a candidate.

that question.

"Our community can now tangibly see that there are schools coming up," he said.

He's also confident that when the students walk into the new buildings, teachers will be there.

"There are going to be teachers in these schools. We will not open up these schools and not have teachers in them," he said. "In terms of ensuring that there is money there for that, that will be a conversation that will happen at that time."

But NDP candidate Thomas Dang said voters want more assurance than that. He said the current proposed funding just isn't up to the task of the class sizes that are coming.

"If they stay on pace with this kind of funding, we are just going to have a disaster on the front lines," he said. "You can't teach K-12 education like you do in a university lecture hall."

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Neighbours, church battle over building

SALVATION ARMY

Area is not zoned for social services, residents argue

Lucy Haines
For Metro | Edmonton

Alberta Avenue resident Joanne Coleman said she's tired of her daughters being propositioned for drugs or prostitution as they walk home from high school, or of even seeing a man change clothes outdoors near her house.

It's what she said she and others will have to endure if the Salvation Army is permitted to demolish and rebuild at 95 St. and 117 Ave..

The site has been boarded up for two years while the church and residents fight it out.

On Thursday, Coleman

joined about 30 fellow residents at a hearing of the city's development appeal board.

It's the group's second attempt to stop the Salvation Army from rebuilding in the neighbourhood.

Residents say their opposition isn't about being unwelcoming, but about the Salvation Army's use of the land for a purpose it isn't zoned for.

"They've applied for a religious assembly, but that's two hours a week. The rest of the time they're offering intense social services — we're not zoned for that," said Chris Basualdo, development director with the Alberta Avenue Community League.

"It's having an impact on the neighbourhood. It's not a suitable use for this area, and we want the decision overturned."

Major Grant Effer of the Salvation Army's Edmonton area said the church has been trying to be a good neighbour in the community, reassuring resi-



Local residents oppose plans by the Salvation Army to demolish and rebuild at 95 St. and 117 Ave. LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

dents that the rebuild of the Crossroads Community Church will be a bona-fide church, and not a social-service centre. "We want this decision to be upheld," he said.

But local residents will fight it. "If we lose here we'll go to the Court of Queen's Bench," said Coleman. "We want to live and work in our neighbourhood — to just enjoy our backyard."

SIX YEARS LATER

Takeover of photo radar finally pays off



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

It has taken six years for the city's takeover of the photo radar program to deliver the profits that city administrators first promised back in 2007.

A report released Thursday from the city's auditor, David Wiun, reveals that only last year did the city reduce the cost of processing a ticket to what was first envisioned back in 2007, when it was brought in-house.

"The program took six years to achieve an actual cost per violation that was lower than the last year of fully-outsourced operations," he wrote.

The cost to process every ticket dropped to \$10.14 last year, below even what city staff first promised.

But since 2007 those per-ticket processing costs have

ranged as high as \$34.58.

Even when the processing costs were at their peak the city was still reaping healthy revenues from the program, because speeders continued to receive high numbers of tickets.

Still, the profit was lower than it would have been if the costs had been in line with estimates.

The report is a follow up from the auditors report last year, which revealed a \$47-million overrun in the planned costs for the program.

Wiun said city staff assumed there would be an off-the shelf software package for handling tickets, but that didn't turn out to be the case.

"The city found that potential vendors would only make their software available as long as they received a share of the ticket revenue," he said in the report.

Building a new software program in-house cost \$3.9 million.

\$10.14

Cost to the city of processing a ticket last year, down from as high as \$34.58

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Buying property in the South: why do thousands of Canadians choose Ecuador?

Having created a stir in February by becoming the first foreign country to advertise itself during the Super Bowl, Ecuador has reminded the world that it has all it needs to be appealing to travellers: the Galapagos Islands, the Andes, the Amazon, volcanoes, beaches and the culture of the indigenous people are just a few reasons to visit. Somewhat less known, however, is that more and more Canadians are settling there seasonally or permanently, thanks to a Canadian company established there since 2010: HolaEcuador.

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- *International Living, 2008-2013, 2015*
- **13th in the world for the effectiveness of healthcare** - *Bloomberg Magazine, 2014*
- **No hurricanes**

COMBINE VACATIONS AND REVENUE...

"I've been thinking about preparing my retirement in the south for years," says Tim Jones. "From the start, what really impressed me with HolaEcuador was that I was **signing a contract with a Canadian company**. I know I'm protected by our laws and everything is done in my own language. It's reassuring. Then, of course, there is the cost of living which is three times lower than in Canada, very affordable properties and the fact that the most beautiful months of the year are January to March, precisely the months during which I want to have my feet in the sand! Throughout the rest of the year, I can easily rent out my house: there are rental management companies on site. **For less than \$95,000 US, I have my turnkey house** just a 10 minute walk from the beach in a Canadian community with 24/7 security. In Costa Rica, the same thing would have cost me at least 3 times more!"

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When asked about what motivated them to move abroad to Ecuador, Josie and Martin reply, in unison: "the freezing cold!" "And the cost of living," adds Martin. "For us, it was also an opportunity to start a business. We went there to establish contacts and we just fell in love with the country. The people are so friendly and easy-going. With the information given to us by HolaEcuador and by doing a little digging for information ourselves, we plan to take the plunge in the next year. The visa is easy to obtain and if you own a property in Ecuador worth \$25,000 US or more, you can apply for permanent residence."

Regardless of the project, HolaEcuador offers three interesting alternatives: fourplex OCEANFRONT condos, turnkey houses with semi-private pool or the purchase of a lot with 5 years to build a custom designed home.

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H is for Hero: Police puppies get names

LAW ENFORCEMENT

More than 21,000 names submitted by public

Thirteen puppies in training to be police dogs now have names.

There were more than 21,000 entries from across Canada to this year's RCMP Name the Puppy contest.

Because of the unprecedented response, Insp. Andre Lemyre, who is in charge of

police dog services, chose 13 winners representing every province and territory in Canada, not just 10 as originally planned.

All names had to start with the letter H. For multiple entries of the same name, winners were selected at random.

The 13 winners will each receive a certificate, a laminated photo of the puppy they named, a plush German Shepherd toy dog named Justice and an RCMP cap.

"Everyone at the centre was blown away by not only the number but also the creativity of all the entries," said Lemyre.

"Congratulations to the 13 winners and my sincere thanks to every boy and girl who suggested a name."

RCMP police service dog teams search for missing or lost people, track and apprehend criminals, remove illicit drugs from the streets, detect explosives and search for and recover evidence used



Three of 13 puppies in training to be police dogs, which all have names beginning with H. THE CANADIAN PRESS/RCMP HANDOUT

in crimes.

The Police Dog Service Training Centre is the national training centre in Canada for all RCMP police dog teams.

Ninety-three per cent of the

German Shepherds working as RCMP service dogs were born at the centre as part of the RCMP Police Dog Breeding Program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

Canada sixth in social advancement: Index

Canada continues to rank near the top of the world in a measure of social advancement that hopes to displace simple economic wealth — or gross domestic product — as the yardstick for national success.

The Social Progress Index, which is headed by Harvard Business School professor Michael Porter, delivered its third annual report Wednesday evening, ranking 133 countries on a basket of 52 different indicators.

Canada came in sixth overall as the most socially advanced country in the world — but was ranked first globally for offering its citizens what the study broadly terms "opportunity," a group of indicators that include rights, freedoms, tolerance, and access to higher education.

"Canada's ranking as the world's sixth most socially progressive nation is testament to a strong performance across the board, with stand-out results for inclusion, thanks particularly to a high tolerance for religious minorities and immigrants," Michael Green, the executive director of the non-profit Social Progress Im-

perative, said in a release.

High Canadian adult literacy rates and a very low homicide rate were also points of note.

The United States was ranked 16th in the world, having "underperformed" in relation to its relative economic strength, according to the Social Progress Index authors.

Two areas in which Canada does not excel are "ecosystem sustainability" — rated 48th among 133 countries — and "access to information and communication" — where Canada placed 25th.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

The competition:

Norway, the small Nordic country whose vast sovereign wealth fund built on oil and gas revenues has been frequently contrasted in recent months to Alberta, was ranked as the world's most socially advanced nation, followed by Sweden, Switzerland, Iceland and New Zealand to round out the top five.

+ WE DUB YOU...

The winning names are:

Haley, Hammer, Hannah, Haven, Hawk, Herc, Hero, Hector, Hitch, Hooper, Hope, Hulk and Hunter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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POLITICS**Harper to question allies about Iran deal: Sources**

A skeptical Harper government will be pressing some of Canada's closest allies about their deal to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

The Canadian Press has learned Prime Minister Stephen Harper will likely discuss the Iran deal this weekend while he and U.S. President Barack Obama are in Panama for the Summit of the Americas.

Sources also say Foreign Affairs Minister Rob Nicholson will discuss the issue next week when G7 foreign ministers meet in the German city of Lubeck. Nicholson has already released a statement expressing skepticism about the deal reached by six countries with Iran to curb its nuclear program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP launch complaint against Liberal leader

In a case of political tit for tat, the NDP is seeking an investigation into Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau's alleged improper use of parliamentary premises for partisan purposes.

The NDP's complaint comes one day after the Liberals sought an investigation into NDP MPs' allegedly inappropriate use of their taxpayer-funded constituency offices to campaign for re-election.

Both complaints have been sent to House of Commons Speaker Andrew Scheer, who chairs the multi-party board of internal economy, which polices how Commons resources are spent.

In a letter Thursday to Scheer, Windsor NDP MP Brian Masse raises "serious concerns" about a Liberal caucus meeting on Parliament Hill last June.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**OTTAWA GUARDING THE GUARDS**

Ottawa Police Const. Santiago De Los Santos watches over the National War Memorial as sentries return to their post for their first day on Thursday. The Department of Defence has hired the Ottawa Police Service to guard the sentries, after Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, a reservist guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, was shot and killed by a gunman while on sentry duty on Oct. 22, 2014. The Department of National Defence is paying the Ottawa police an estimated \$425,000 for uniformed officers to protect the sentries beginning this week and running until mid-November.

JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. team develops antibody for cancer

Researchers at the University of B.C. have developed an antibody that can slow the ability of aggressive tumours to grow and spread to different parts of the body.

Early testing in mice shows the antibody has the ability to "knock down" aggressive tumour cells and their ability to migrate and spread to other parts of the body, said Dr. Kelly McNagny of UBC's Biomedical Research Centre.

"It's all looking great," McNagny told Metro. "It's human cells in a mouse model, but we're excited about the idea of now developing more antibodies that we could start using to treat patients."

Developed in collaboration with the Centre for Drug Research and Development, the antibody works by targeting podocalyxin, a protein marker found in many highly aggressive tumours. Podocalyxin is associated with about five per cent of breast cancers, most ovarian cancers and some types of colon, renal and bladder cancers. Earlier studies on the protein marker have shown that its presence in tumours is linked to low survival rates. McNagny and his team recently discovered that inhibiting podocalyxin dramatically slowed the growth and metastasis of aggressive tumours in mice.

"That's why we're excited about it," he said. "It seems to get rid of the cells that are residual and that move around to set up shop in other places."

If the antibody proves successful in humans, McNagny said it could be used as a treatment to prevent aggressive tumours from spreading further.

"It could be used to block late stage disease," he said. "If you can catch people before the disease has metastasized to show that this protein is on their tumours, this would be a great way of preventing that late stage metastasis."

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO IN VANCOUVER

The bill for beauty

DUFFY TRIAL**Questions arise over who paid for makeup services**

The prime minister might have had his makeup done alongside Sen. Mike Duffy in 2010 on one of their many appearances together, but a government source says the taxpayer didn't pick up the tab for that type of service.

Still, one month earlier, taxpayers did foot the bill for Stephen Harper's makeup artist to travel overseas for the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands.

The fact that Harper and Duffy employed the services of the same makeup artist surfaced in court earlier this week.

Defence lawyer Donald Bayne said Tuesday that Duffy had his makeup done for a G8/G20 national youth caucus event in 2010 and that Harper received the same service that day.

"The \$300 (contract) paid not only Sen. Duffy's perfectly standard makeup for television — it's always done — but Ms. Lambert made up the prime minister of Canada," Bayne said in court.

"There's no way the G8 conference was not validly related to Sen. Duffy's public business."

A government source, speaking on condition of anonymity, refused to comment on a matter before the court but did say that "these services are not paid for by taxpayers."

In fact, the taxpayer has picked up bills in the past for another Harper stylist, and around the same time period.

+ QUESTIONS

The NDP once tabled an official question in the House of Commons on who paid Muntean's salary, and was told that no such contract existed. Harper's team said the party paid for her salary.

Michelle Muntean travelled around the world with Harper, applying makeup, styling hair, selecting clothing and trimming nails.

In 2007, Harper's office told The Canadian Press that Muntean's expenses were covered by the Conservative party.

But the Public Accounts of Canada, the government's annual spending report, tell a different story: the Department of Foreign Affairs paid her travel expenses, includ-

ing flights, meals and accommodation.

The records for 2009-2010, for example, show Muntean travelled with Harper on 13 different trips.

In May 2010, the records show that she accompanied Harper to the Netherlands.

Duffy's payment of Lambert occurred through an unusual \$65,000 master contract that he had arranged with Gerald Donohue, a former broadcasting friend.

Through that umbrella fund, Donohue's company paid out other service providers, including Lambert.

The Crown has alleged Duffy set up that system so that Senate finance officials could not see how he was spending taxpayer money. But Bayne has argued that Duffy is guilty of nothing more than administrative process irregularities.

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Fed bankers meet pot business

INVESTMENT

Marijuana still illegal under U.S. federal law

A federal banking official took the unprecedented step Thursday of meeting with marijuana business owners, as the pot business awaits word on

setting up its own bank.

Kansas City Federal Reserve president Esther George held a closed-door meeting with about 20 representatives of the marijuana industry.

The meeting was arranged by two Colorado congressmen who have tried unsuccessfully to pass laws expanding banking access for the marijuana industry, Democratic Reps.

Ed Perlmutter and Jared Polis.

Federal authorities have released guidelines to banks about how to accept pot-related clients, but most banks have declined.

Banks routinely reject pot businesses for even basic services such as chequing accounts because they fear running afoul of federal law, which considers marijuana and its

proceeds illegal.

Colorado awarded a licence last year to a credit union to serve the industry. But the Fourth Corner Credit Union can't start taking deposits without clearance from the Federal Reserve.

The application has been on hold in the Kansas City office, and pot workers planned to urge George to approve the

application.

The marijuana industry currently relies on a hodge-podge of banking work-arounds, from changing accounts frequently using innocuous-sounding names to hiring armed guards to ferry truckloads of cash.

"My concern is that somebody's going to get killed before change is made," said

Charles Smith, chief operating officer for Denver-based Dixie Brands Inc., which makes marijuana-infused sodas and candies.

In a statement, the Federal Reserve spokesman didn't say where Fourth Corner's application stood or why George was meeting with marijuana business owners.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ORANGE COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS TRAIN ON FERRIS WHEEL
Cody Hesser, 32, at the top of the Orlando Eye during Special Operation Program Training Wednesday. Orange County Fire Rescue is training possible team members on the new 400-foot tall wheel. RED HUBER/ORLANDO SENTINEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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IN BRIEF**French protesters march in nationwide strikes**

Thousands of protesters, many blowing whistles and waving union flags, marched through Paris and other French cities on Thursday in a day of nationwide strikes that kept many children out of school, forced the closure of the Eiffel Tower and cancelled some 2,000 flights in and out of France.

Stepping up pressure on President Francois Hollande's already-unpopular Socialist government, the protesters aired an array of grievances against state funding cuts, planned increases in the retirement age and business-friendly reforms that could make firing workers easier.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Can Boston Marathon bomber's lawyer save him from the death penalty?

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's attorney is renowned for keeping her high-profile clients off death row, but Judy Clarke could face her most daunting challenge yet in trying to save the Boston Marathon bomber from execution.

Most of Clarke's past successes hinged on persuading prosecutors to take the death penalty off the table before their cases ever reached a jury.

She accomplished that on behalf of such killers as Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, Atlanta Olympics bomber Eric Rudolph and Arizona mass shooter Jared Loughner. With Tsarnaev, Clarke doesn't have that option.

A federal jury convicted Tsarnaev of all 30 charges against him Wednesday and found him responsible for the deaths of the three people and the killing of an MIT police officer three days later.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TV5 employees work in Paris on Thursday after the French television network was hacked by people claiming allegiance to ISIL.

CHRISTOPHE ENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL says group hacked French network TV5

PARIS

Prosecutor's office opens terrorism investigation

Hackers claiming allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) seized control of a global French television network, simultaneously blacking out 11 channels and taking over the network's website and social-media accounts. The attack appeared to be an unprecedented step in the extremist group's information-warfare tactics.

The hackers briefly cut transmission of 11 channels belonging to TV5 Monde and took over its websites and social-media accounts starting Wednesday night. The channel's director, Yves Bigot, said the attack continued into Thursday. He told RTL radio that the network has restored its signal but can only broadcast recorded programs.

The Islamic extremist group has claimed complex hackings before, but experts and a French official said the ability to black out a global television network represented a new level of sophistication for the group. The Paris prosecutor's office said Thursday it has opened a terrorism investigation into

the attack.

Bigot said he was shaken when he saw the black screen across the network's broadcasts "and when we discovered the sense of the message appearing on our social media and our websites, it both allowed us to understand what was happening and obviously worried us."

The message on the TV5 Monde website read in part "I am IS" with a banner by a group that called itself Cybercaliphate. It was replaced later Thursday by a simple message saying that it was undergoing maintenance.

Hackers claiming to work on behalf of ISIL have seized control of the Twitter accounts

of other media, such as Newsweek, and in January they hacked into the Twitter page and YouTube site of the U.S. military's Central Command.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls, on his Twitter account, called the attack "an unacceptable insult to freedom of information and expression," and French government ministers visited the channel's Paris headquarters Thursday.

TV5 Monde, which was founded by the French government in 1984 and calls itself the "worldwide French cultural channel," broadcasts news and other programs produced in France, Belgium, Switzerland and Canada. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLICE BRUTALITY

Critics want abuse claims monitored

The fatal shooting of an unarmed black man fleeing from a police officer has stirred outrage around the nation, but people in this South Carolina city aren't surprised, calling it inevitable in a police department they believe focuses on petty crimes and fails to keep its officers in check.

There is almost nothing in Michael Thomas Slager's police personnel file to suggest that his bosses considered him a rogue officer capable of murdering a man he just pulled over for a broken tail light. People in the community he served say this reflects what's going wrong with policing today: Officers nearly always get the last word when citizens complain.

The mostly black neighborhood in North Charleston where Slager fired eight shots at the back of Walter Lamer Scott on Saturday is far from unique in this regard, said Melvin Tucker, a former FBI agent and police chief in four southern cities who often testifies in police misconduct cases.

Slager's file includes a single excessive use-of-force complaint, from 2013: A man said Slager used his stun gun against him without reason. But Slager was exonerated and the case closed, even though witnesses told The Associated Press that investigators never followed up with them.

Mario Givens, the man who accused Slager of excessive force in 2013, said he's convinced Scott's death could have been prevented if Slager had been disciplined in his case.

Civil rights leaders want North Charleston to create an independent citizens review board to review complaints against police.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Derek Smith, 14, looks at the shattered rear window of his mom's car that was busted out by hail slightly smaller than a tennis ball that fell from a storm in downtown Farmington, Mo., Wednesday. DAVID CARSON/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Midwest braces for storm

TORNADO SEASON

'Enhanced risk' of hail, high winds, tornadoes

A broad swath of the Midwest is girding for hail, damaging winds and possibly tornadoes as a strong storm front continues to rumble east.

The National Weather Service's "enhanced risk" area Thursday stretches from northeast Texas to the upper Midwest. Forecasters say Philadelphia, Washington and other parts of the Atlantic coast could see the same weather patterns Friday.

In Milwaukee, an interstate was closed for several hours

+ BACKGROUND

Hail, hail rock and roll

Some of the hail stones that were slightly smaller than a tennis ball that fell in downtown Farmington, Mo., on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. Numerous cars sustained broken windows from the hail.

DAVID CARSON/ ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Thursday morning after several vehicles became partially submerged in flood water due to heavy rain.

Tornadoes were reported Wednesday and early Thursday in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, but those areas saw min-

imal damage from the year's first widespread bout of severe weather.

In central Indiana, a 75-year-old woman died Wednesday night after being swept into a rain-swollen creek near Indianapolis. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Record fine for gas pipeline explosion

California's largest power utility says it won't appeal a record \$1.6-billion penalty from the state for a 2010 gas pipeline explosion that killed eight people in a San Francisco suburb.

Utility regulators approved the penalty against Pacific Gas & Electric Co. on Thursday.

PG&E CEO Tony Earley says in a statement that the utility's focus would be on completing safety improvements. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KENYA

Police urge citizens to resist militants

Kenyans confronted by armed Islamic extremists should fight back and avoid being killed "like cockroaches," a senior police official said Thursday at a Nairobi morgue holding the bodies of some of the 148 people who died in last week's attack on a college.

Some Kenyans, however, said it was difficult to expect civilians to resist militants and that it was the government's responsibility to protect them. The Kenyan government has

faced criticism for an allegedly slow response by security forces to the April 2 attack on Garissa University College in eastern Kenya.

Many of those who died likely had no chance or any means to fight back effectively. The assailants were heavily armed.

"If something happens like that, fight back," Pius Masai Mwachi, a Kenyan police superintendent, said to journalists. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF**Bell Media president out**

The president of Canada's largest communications company abruptly left his post Thursday, two weeks after he admitted to trying to influence national news coverage. A corporate statement announcing the departure of Bell Media president Kevin Crull left little doubt of the link between his leaving and his interference in CTV's coverage of the broadcast regulator. Crull sparked widespread criticism last month for demanding CTV journalists not give any airtime to Jean-Pierre Blais, chairman of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GADGETS**Apple Watch ready for online orders**

Buying an Apple Watch won't be as simple as walking into an Apple store and handing over your credit card.

The smartwatch comes in 54 configurations — more than any other Apple gadget. So starting Friday, Apple stores will have staff trained to help you choose. You'll then have to place your order for shipping starting April 24.

Prices range from \$349 US to \$17,000 US, depending on the watch case, band and size.

If you know the specific configuration you want, you're best off ordering it online, starting at 12:01 a.m. PDT Friday (3:01 a.m. EDT). There won't be an in-store pick-up option.

Besides the United States, the watch is available to customers in Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan and the United Kingdom.

For the most part, watches will be available for viewing when stores open Friday, so many overseas stores will actually show the watch before

orders are accepted.

Only some stores will carry the 18-karat gold luxury models known as Edition. When you make the try-

on reservation, you'll have to specify whether you're looking for these models or the cheaper ones. Specialists will handle these luxury appointments. If you're just interested in seeing them, all stores will have them for viewing in glass cases.

You won't be able to visit Best Buy or your wireless carrier. Apple will handle most of the sales directly. However, the watch will be available to try on at Galeries Lafayette in Paris, Isetan in Tokyo, Selfridges in London and some Apple resellers in China and Japan starting Friday. Once the watch goes on sale on April 24, it will be available in additional retail outlets, such as select department stores and boutiques, including Maxfield in Los Angeles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Canadians sue U.S. sperm bank****GEORGIA****Ontario couple claim donor details were incorrect**

A U.S. sperm bank said Thursday it did not verify the personal information of a donor used by a Canadian couple who are now suing the company, alleging they were never told the man was a schizophrenic with a criminal record.

In an open letter, the president of Xytex Corp. said a careful review of its records had determined the Canadian couple's claims "do not reflect" the information the donor provided to the company.

"We stand by the process we

followed and intend to vigorously defend ourselves against the allegations," Kevin M. O'Brien said in the letter.

Port Hope, Ont., residents Angela Collins and Margaret Elizabeth Hanson allege that Xytex told them their choice of donor was a healthy man with multiple degrees who was "among their best donors."

In a statement of claim filed with a Georgia court, the couple alleges they only accidentally learned the identity of their donor — years after their son was born. Through their own research, they contend, they realized the donor, James Christopher Aggeles, was a college dropout who had been arrested for burglary at one point and had schizophrenia.

None of the allegations contained in the statement of claim

have been proven in court.

Xytex claims it has done nothing wrong.

The company said it wanted to assure the public that claims it misled a client are "simply not true."

"We followed thorough procedures to review the health of the donor. As you may know, this vetting process eliminates 99 per cent of the potential donors who apply to Xytex," O'Brien explained in his letter.

"In this case, the donor underwent a standard medical exam and provided extensive personal and health information."

The suit states Aggeles appears to have fathered 36 children. Lawyer Nancy Hersh said she had at least 15 other clients who may be joining the lawsuit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flight delays surged in U.S.

There was a surge in long tarmac delays at American airports in February, including several during a snow storm in Dallas.

The U.S. Department of Transportation said Thursday that 16 domestic flights were stuck on the ground for more than three hours and eight international flights were delayed more than four hours in February. Federal rules prohibit airlines from holding planes on the tarmac that long, and the department could issue fines.

Eleven of the long delays were American Airlines or American Eagle flights to or from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport during a Feb. 27 snow storm, the government said.



Passengers in Atlanta look at flight cancellations during a winter storm, in this Feb. 25 photo. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Overall, 72.8 per cent of flights arrived on time in February, down from 76.8 per cent in January but up from 70.7 per cent the previous February.

Alaska Airlines had the best on-time rating at 85.1 per cent. Envoy Air had the worst rating at 53.3 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



Hi, my name is Rebecca and I'm an iAddict. This is a hard day for me because it's the day the Apple Watch goes on pre-order. I must stay strong.

The idea of the Apple Watch gives me a nervous breakdown. I already have a MacBook, an iPod, an iPhone and an iPad — this is not a humble brag, it's more a humiliating admission.

When the iPad came out, I felt like Goldilocks: "My laptop is too big and my iPhone is too small, but that iPad looks juuuusssst right."

And now, Apple is releasing a watch that tells time, checks emails, takes calls and makes the Casio calculator watch I had in Grade 3 look like a joke.

Can I resist? And if I don't, what will happen to my social skills? What will happen to my credit card? And what will happen to my brain?

Sometimes I come home tired, wanting to relax. I'll sit on the couch and start scrolling through Netflix (ahem, on my Apple TV), then I'll hear my phone buzz. As I try to ignore that, I'll hear the bleep of a Facebook message coming through my computer, then the ding of a text, and the chime of an email.

You know the feeling, right? It's both intriguing and exhausting, like "I wonder who that is" mixed with "who the hell is that?"

You try to hold out, ignore them, but as you watch that old Friends episode, the buzzes and the beeps and the chimes gnaw at the back of your thoughts like a rat whose teeth resemble the end

of a USB cord. Finally, you give in and you check the messages, often to find they're disappointing or stressful. "Oh, an ad for a vagina enlargement." Or "great, a friendly reminder from my accountant that it's tax season."

If I can barely relax now, I feel like the Apple Watch will take over my life. The chimes and buzzes won't be across the room anymore, they'll be on my body. Tapping me — the Apple Watch doesn't vibrate, it taps — taunting me. Every text, every FB invite, every Instagram of my friend Cathy's new manicure ... tap, tap, tap.

Sometimes I feel like I'm in a psychological thriller; like social media is a psycho neighbour who keeps knocking on my door to tell me what colour Kim Kardashian's hair is. And though I know this, I can't resist answering

the door, just in case it's something else, something great.

I read an article recently about the fact that every time we check our messages or notifications or play Candy Crush, we get a hit of dopamine.

Dopamine is the same chemical released when a cocaine addict snorts a line or a smoker lights up. Though I'll be jealous of everyone that has one, I don't think I'll get an Apple Watch.

I'm already addicted and the watch sounds like hooking myself up to an intravenous notification drip.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Women can get abortions, but individual women can't

I've never been faced with the abortion choice.

But if I ever have one, I know I'll fear the stigma and shame — not from the minority of pro-lifers in this country, but from within the pro-choice majority.

Abortion is framed as black and white. It's not. It's "thousands of different shades of gray," as a U.S. Vox Media survey released this week points out. Some people are both pro-choice and pro-life, and each draws the line in a different place.

That plays out in Canada, too: In a 2014 poll, 23 per cent of otherwise pro-choice Canadians said they feel we should have some restrictions on the procedure. We're also split on whether abortion should always be paid for, or only in medical emergencies.

Canadians gaze with scorn at the theatrical, divisive abortion politics of the U.S. We agree on women's right to choose, we congratulate ourselves. We applaud our reasonable laws, our legal, paid-for-by-the-government abortions.

But we are hypocrites. When it comes to supporting women who make that choice, we are silent. Women in general can get abortions. Not an individual woman.

There were 82,869 abortions in Canada in 2013. One-third of Canadian women will terminate a pregnancy. And yet I have personally only heard of two.

Of those two, only one was

a friend who told me of her abortion. It was hard for her to share, and it's now a vaulted secret. Our friends are pro-choice — as are 60 per cent of Canadians — but we both still worry about judgment.

There are public campaigns to dispel the shame around mental health, so people need not suffer from isolation, or blame, but we say nothing about abortion.

Everyone has their own take on abortion, if they'd have one, when they might. For some women, it's a painful decision for which they might even shame themselves. These nuanced opinions creep into our health-care system and silence us among each other.

Canadian medical schools are failing to properly educate future doctors about abortion, due to both stigma and fear of offending students, according to journalist Danielle Groen, who's written about the issue.

Access to abortion varies widely across the country, and is notoriously difficult outside major cities — a bias caused in part by fear of stigma and one that undermines our supposed legal right, noted longtime abortion activist Joyce Arthur.

"It's one thing to have a right, and really another thing to implement it," she said.

We've already said it's OK, so why does it still feel wrong?

Because we don't have abortion "solved." We've only sewn up the politics. And until we work harder to diminish the shame, Canadian women will suffer.

Happy face/Sad face

From **matrimonial marketing** to **suffocating welfare laws**, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



Poultry pilgrimage

Two Canadian dads took their sons on a Kentucky Fried road trip of a lifetime. Travelling 3,400 kilometres from Montreal to the Harland Sanders Café and Museum in Kentucky, the families said three of the sons had never tried the crispy birds before and that they had never laughed so much in their lives. Goes to show that treating your fast food as an adventure can be amazing. Putting a ring on it, however ... (read on)



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Heavy stuff

As if it wasn't sad enough when undying chaos-demon, Lord and Master of Earth and lead singer of GWAR Dave Brockie, a.k.a. Oderus Urungus, overdosed last March, the band is now being sued by Brockie's father. Dad says the other guys stole his son's remains, guitars and other stuff. He claims he asked for the return of all of Urungus's remains, but instead got "a small fraction of his son's ashes which were delivered in a used plastic bag with a Discover credit card logo on it." The matter is tragically before the courts. But at least we'll always have the music.



Help the poor and needy

Some politicians are so petty and shortsighted that they can find no better use of their time than micromanaging the spending habits of the poor. If a new law passes, welfare recipients in Kansas won't be allowed to use their cash at pools, nail salons or movie theatres, and will be barred from withdrawing more than \$25 a day at ATMs. This idea makes no moral or fiscal sense (you could probably get some pretty sweet nail decals for the same price as the fees you'd be paying on daily withdrawals), but when scapegoating the most vulnerable in society is your public-service priority, logic is mere trifle.



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Cashing in on our lust for love

ANALYSIS

Nicholas 'The Notebook' Sparks has yet another sticky sweet tale for us

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



Novelist Nicholas Sparks is the current king of romance writers. His flowery prose even gives Harlequin a run for their money in the three-hanky tear-jerker department. Who else could write a line like, "Love is like the wind, you can't see it, but you can feel it," with a straight face?

He is to romance writing what Buckley's cough syrup is to a tickly throat. They both get the job done, but leave a sickly sweet aftertaste.

His best-known novel adaptation is *The Notebook*, a cross-generational love story that spent over a year as a New York Times hardcover top seller. Inspired by the story of his wife's grandparents' 60-year marriage, the novel became a 2004 movie starring Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams. The tale of love and Alzheimer's is emotionally manipulative (writer Gary Panton called this passionate weeper "mushier than a mushed-up bowl of mushy peas that's just



Scott Eastwood and Britt Robertson star in Nicholas Sparks' latest lovey affair, *The Longest Ride*. CONTRIBUTED

been mushed in an industrial-strength mushifier") but opening weekend it surfed a wave of tears to the box office Top 5.

Sparks, a former pharmaceutical salesman, writes tales of love and loss, of mighty obstacles overcome and lip-locks galore, which he defines as "dramatic epic love stories" along the lines of "Eric Segal's *Love Story* or *The Bridges of Madison County* ... But you can even go all the way back. You

had Hemingway write *A Farewell to Arms*, the movies of the '40s — *Casablanca*, *From Here to Eternity* — Shakespeare, and that's the genre I work in."

He caught some flack for comparing himself to Shakespeare — one writer said, "If Sparks is like Shakespeare, then a house painter is like Picasso" — but the fact remains that his unconventional love stories, his parcels of passion, have made

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Longest Ride ★★
Danny Collins ★★
Cut Bank ★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★
★ SKIP IT

his name synonymous with the romance genre.

This weekend, prepare for another flurry of Sparkisms—tear-stained romantic letters, lines like, "Love requires sac-

rifice but it's worth it," and passionate make-out sessions — as *The Longest Ride* hits the big screen.

This time around "two stories separated by time, con-

nected by fate," get Sparksified as the lives of a young couple, played by Scott "Clint's son" Eastwood and Britt Robertson and older lovebirds Alan Alda and Oona Chaplin, interlace. "I wish I could tell you it's all happily ever after," says Alda's character, "not everybody gets that." Expect unexpected poignancy.

Critics haven't always warmed to Sparks's stories on film — *Safe Haven* with Julianne Hough as "a young woman's struggle to love again" has a paltry 12 per cent approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes, while *The Best of Me* starring Michelle Monaghan and James Marsden as high school sweethearts reunited after two decades sits at a miserable eight per cent rating.

But audiences can't seem to get enough of his weepy tales of unrequited love, lost love, mature love and love in a time of trouble.

Ten of his books have already been adapted for the movies, with one more, *The Choice*, scheduled for 2016.

His style of romance has caught on, but don't call him a romance writer.

"I write dramatic fiction. If you go into a further subgenre, it would be a love story, but it has its roots in the Greek tragedies. This genre evolved through Shakespeare. He did *Romeo and Juliet*. Hemingway did *A Farewell to Arms*. I do this currently today."



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When Kristen met Juliette

CLOUDS OF SILS MARIA

Stewart and Binoche talk film roles and easy rapport

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

When we spoke last October during the New York Film Festival, Kristen Stewart had not yet become the first American female actor to ever win a Cesar — France's equivalent of the Oscar — for Olivier Assayas' *Clouds of Sils Maria*. But she was still ecstatic about it. In the film she plays Valentine, the harried but cucumber-cool personal assistant of Maria Enders, a Juliette Binoche-like superstar played by Juliette Binoche. That allowed her to mock the film industry and the gossip machine from a safe remove. The two actresses paired together to talk about their rapport, and, in Binoche's case, to whip out one hell of a laugh.

Juliette, your breakthrough, 1985's *Rendez-vous*, was written by Assayas, and you reunited for his 2008 film *Summer Hours*. You instigated this project. What was your original concept?

Juliette Binoche: I wanted him to deal with the feminine. I didn't know exactly what it would be, but I was imagining these characters exchanging roles. I talked about Bergman. I said, "C'mon, you love Bergman! You made a book of interviews (from 2008)!" And I was a little frustrated on *Summer Hours*, as an actress. I thought he was shy and hiding. I said, "I was missing you!"

Kristen Stewart: It's like, "I want to know you!"

JB: "I want to know you," yeah! And he said to me, "Give me two weeks and I'll tell you whether I like it or not." Then he called me and said, "I have the subject." A year and a half later he gave me the script

It's pretty honest about what goes on in the life of a middle-aged actress. What was your reaction to it?

JB: I was shocked! I didn't



Juliette Binoche, left, plays a famous international actress struggling to deal with her next film, alongside her personal assistant, played by Kristen Stewart, in *Clouds of Sils Maria*. CONTRIBUTED

expect it to be that way at all. I was provoking him (big, hearty laugh) and I got slapped back!

Kristen, you were supposed to be Jo-Ann, a younger actress ultimately played by Chloe Grace Moretz, but you insisted on taking Valentine instead. Why was that?

KS: That part is fantastic, but it's just not for me. It was something I knew so well that it wasn't interesting to me. I know Valentine so well, but I've never done it before. It'd be more interesting to say I gravitated towards the project because of the statements it made and the commentary that it is. But it was the emotional

the media and talk about what precarious bulls — it can be sometimes and how we starvily consume people — that was fun. I had to erase the glee from my face while saying those lines. I had to try to not look so excited about it.

Your characters have such a comfortable rapport. How did you develop that?

JB: We took some appointments to help us develop our relationship. (Big, hearty laugh). When you like someone, you like someone. We became close

think more than most people that I've worked with. I'm constantly sitting there in between everything (thinking). She perplexes me a little bit, which is absolutely the right dynamic. We didn't have to fake it.

Is it getting better, or do you have to just go to Europe to get the great roles? Or is that just a cliché?

KS: If you were to get a consensus, then, yeah, absolutely. There are so many conventions in female roles in the States that it almost becomes — I mean, it's so cliché, as you say — it almost becomes stifling. And it's contagious. All of a sudden you think it's not going to be commercial and easily consumable, people are not going to make it.

It's either going to be the tiniest, tiniest, tiniest movie ever, or it's just never going to happen. I read really great scripts all the time that are different and go against convention and say something new. And they can never find legs. They never get made. It's a cliché because it's true.

I've always gravitated towards American filmmakers who have a bit more fluidity and the balls to explore; and (who) live in something and don't need to control it so much. Kristen Stewart

part that I really loved. And there's more irony and more layers steeped in her dialogue if it's coming out of my mouth. It's just the way it is. I've been there, I've been smack-dab in the middle. To directly address

in a natural way.

KS: If we hadn't, the movie would not have been good. Because I am not a liar. If this (connection between us) was not solid and this was not stimulating ... This woman makes me

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DIRECTOR'S TAKE OLIVIER ASSAYAS

Filmmaker Olivier Assayas was partly responsible for Juliette Binoche's big break, and she his: In 1985 she starred in *Rendez-vous*, co-written by Assayas, his first screen credit. In *Clouds of Sils Maria*, she plays a very Binoche-y star, who worries that she's finally being replaced by the young.

"It's not about the cruelty of aging. It's about how to deal with it," he says. "It's not about rivalry. It's about a woman who ... has to accept that she's in another place, and that eventually a younger actress will look at her the same way she looked at an older actress when she was young."



Oliver Assayas. GETTY IMAGES

Now playing



MYSTERY & SUSPENSE Cut Bank

Director: Matt Shakman
Starring: Liam Hemsworth, Billy Bob Thornton

Dwayne McLaren (Liam Hemsworth) dreams about escaping small-town life in Cut Bank, Mont., "the coldest spot in the nation," with his vivacious girlfriend Cassandra (Teresa Palmer). When Dwayne witnesses an awful crime, he tries to leverage a bad situation into a scheme to get rich quickly.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 38% Audience: 34%



DRAMA Wild Tales

Director: Damian Szifron
Starring: Ricardo Darin, Leonardo Sbaraglia

Inequality, injustice and the demands of the world we live in cause stress and depression for many people. Some of them, however, explode. This is a movie about those people.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 95% Audience: 94%



DRAMA & COMEDY Danny Collins

Director: Dan Fogelman
Starring: Al Pacino, Annette Bening

Al Pacino stars as aging 1970s rocker Danny Collins, who can't give up his hard-living ways. But when his manager (Christopher Plummer) uncovers a 40-year-old undelivered letter written to him by John Lennon, he decides to change course and embarks on a heartfelt journey.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 72% Audience: 76%



DRAMA The Longest Ride

Director: George Tillman Jr.
Starring: Scott Eastwood, Brittany Robertson

Based on the bestselling novel by Nicholas Sparks, the film centres on the star-crossed love affair between former champion bull rider Luke and college student Sophia. Spanning generations and two intertwining love stories, it explores the challenges and infinite rewards of enduring love.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 14% Audience: +90%



ACTION Furious 7

Director: James Wan
Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker

Continuing the global exploits in the unstoppable franchise built on speed, Vin Diesel, Paul Walker and Dwayne Johnson lead the returning cast of Fast & Furious 7. They are joined by international action stars new to the franchise including Jason Statham, Djimon Hounsou and Tony Jaa.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 86% Audience: +98%



DRAMA Woman in Gold

Director: Simon Curtis
Starring: Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds

The remarkable true story of one woman's journey to reclaim her heritage. Sixty years after she fled Vienna during the Second World War, an elderly Jewish woman starts her journey to retrieve family possessions seized by the Nazis.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 51% Audience: 90%

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Ryan Gosling's *Lost River* is the Canadian actor's first directing credit. PASCAL LE SEGRETAIR/WIREIMAGE

Gosling's first film inspired by Detroit

DIRECTORIAL DEBUT

Lost River is about surviving in city that's falling apart



Ned Ehrbar
MetroLife

Lost River is the debut effort by a new writer and director named Ryan Gosling. Maybe you've heard of him. He's Canadian or something. We sat down with Gosling to discuss why the story of a young man and his mother (starring Iain De Caestecker and Christina Hendricks) trying to survive in the economic wasteland of Detroit spoke to him so strongly.

What was it about this story that made it right for your directorial debut?

I had written something when I was in my early 20s

about child soldiers, and it was because I had gone to Uganda and Sudan and I had an experience that I wanted to elaborate on. I tried for a while to get that film made and I just couldn't. I just wasn't in a place in my career where I could make that happen. Then, you know, life happened and I was in more films, and then suddenly I went to Detroit and I had a similar feeling where I just felt a real connection to the place and had an experience there that I wanted to share and elaborate on. Sometimes you read a script and you feel like you could contribute by acting, and then sometimes you have an experience where it's, "If I don't write this, no one will."

Aside from Christina Hendricks and your partner, Eva Mendes, you've got a Brit, a Scot, an Irishwoman and an Australian playing Detroit residents. What do you have against American actors?

For the most part, I'd worked with everybody before and I just wanted to work with my friends on this film, and most of them I had seen a side of them that I hadn't gotten to see in their work, and so I wanted to write for that. But then there was this central character of *Bones* (De Caestecker), which was obviously the most important piece and the hardest to find, but Ian was so much more than what I'd hoped for. He just has a quality of wanting to highlight everyone else that's in the scene with him. He came (to Detroit) a month before hand and didn't tell anybody, started stripping copper in these buildings, and he walked every block of these neighbourhoods. He basically took Landon as a younger brother. He just brought this authenticity to it but just kept it in his pocket.

What was the process of you for defining the visual language of this film?

I had a year — not a solid year, by any stretch — but over the course of a year I took some trips to Detroit on my own and I was filming. And that really helped me — in one way because I felt like I was making the movie, even if it was just me, but that it had started and the train had left the station and now I had to finish. But it also helped me because now I had images that I knew were the film, not just inspiration for the film. I could show producers, actors, financiers, not "this is what it could be" but "this is what it is."

The drowned towns motif is such a striking visual.

I grew up next to a river where I had found a road leading into it, and that's how I learned that they had sunken a bunch of towns to make this river. That's sort of where that idea came from, but yeah, it's a totally surreal, true thing that happens, and it's very bizarre.

FRANCE

Who will be on the guest list at Cannes this year?

With the Cannes Film Festival set to open in just over a month's time, speculation is swirling over which films — and which top directors and actors — could be getting their moment under the French Riviera sun.

Cannes's organizers jealously guard their selections for the competition lineup and the out-of-competition program until a month before the film fest opens. This year, the movies to be shown at Cannes will be announced on April 16, and the festival will run from May 13 to 24.

Woody Allen is seen as more than likely to be walking the red carpet with his new flick, *Irrational Man*, starring Joaquin Phoenix.

Cate Blanchett might also be along for her movie *Carol*. And fellow Oscar-winner Matthew McConaughey could appear for *The Sea of Trees* the latest film by director Gus Van Sant, which also stars Naomi Watts.

The director of the festival, Thierry Fremaux, said last week "there is no more than a third of the selection definitively decided." He added he and his selection committee "watch the movies right to the end."

Cannes mixes international art-house cinema, Hollywood blockbusters, extravagant parties, industry wheeling and deal-

ing, and eye-catching publicity stunts in a potent cocktail that has made it the pre-eminent global showcase for movies.

So far the only movie confirmed to be screened is *Mad Max: Fury Road*. The dystopian sci-fi movie, the fourth in the high-action *Mad Max* franchise and the first to star British actor Tom Hardy in the title role, will be shown out of competition on May 14 just before its worldwide release.

Fury Road co-star Charlize Theron is expected

to saunter up the red-carpeted steps. She

could put on another dress for *The Last Face*, directed by Sean Penn and starring Theron and Javier Bardem.

Harry Potter actress Emma Watson and Boyhood star

Ethan Hawke might be along for *Regression*, by Spanish director Alejandro Amenabar (who made *The Others*, *The Sea Inside*) is selected.

Italy's flag could flutter over *Mia Madre*, the most recent picture by Nanni Moretti who won Cannes's top prize the *Palme d'Or* in 2001, or maybe *La Giovinezza* by Paolo Sorrentino, whose *Grande Bellezza* (*The Great Beauty*) won a foreign picture Oscar last year.

Asia, as always, is expected to be well-represented.

AFP

THE SHORT LIST

The Cannes selection committee is screening 1,800 films — from start to end credits — to arrive at the short list for next month's festival



Mad Max: Fury Road, starring Charlize Theron, will be shown at Cannes just before its wide release in May. CONTRIBUTED



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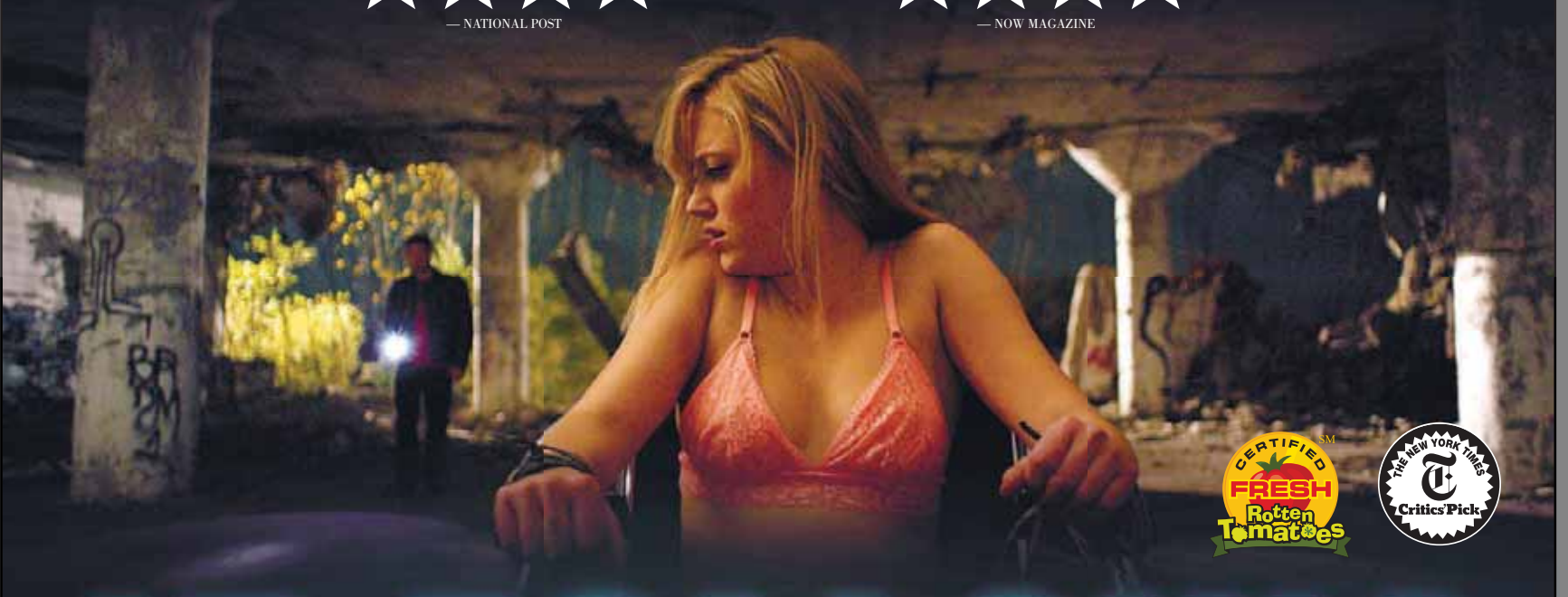
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Arya Stark, hardened by her life on the run, is headed solo toward the city of Braavos. CONTRIBUTED

Catch up with the GOT characters

Battling warriors and wrangling dragons on Game of Thrones is easy. Weathering the bitter cold north of The Wall is a snap. What's hard is keeping track of all the storylines and remembering how things were left hanging when last season ended all those months ago. With the return of Thrones for its fifth season on Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT on HBO, here's a reminder of what some of the characters were up to, way back then. And if you're not caught up, spoiler alert:

1 Jon Snow

Was attempting to broker peace with the wildling army of Mance Rayder, self-styled King-Beyond-the-Wall, when Mance's camp was attacked by troops led by One-True-King Stannis Baratheon.

2 Mance Rayder

Was taken prisoner by Stannis, who ordered him to kneel in surrender, something Mance, a stubborn sort, refused to do.

3 Stannis Baratheon

Left the impression, yet again, that he's not the forgiving type.

4 Tyrion Lannister

Often dismissed for his diminutive stature, but tough as nails, let loose a couple of fatal bolts from his crossbow at his father, Lord Tywin Lannister, who had it coming. After this execution, Tyrion was whisked away by Varys, a eunuch, and the two set sail for freedom.

5 Brienne of Tarth

A towering woman and would-be knight, was determined to fulfil her pledge to save the headstrong girl Arya Stark from the grip of thuggish Sandor Clegane, as she nearly killed him in a brawl. But Arya refused to join her and vanished from sight.

6 Arya Stark

Hardened by her hard young life on the run, took vengeance on her captor, Sandor, by refusing to put him out of his misery with her sword as he lay gravely wounded after his rumble with Brienne. She left him dying in agony as she took off solo for the city of Braavos.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lego brings their toys to life with new platform

TECHNOLOGY

Makers mix real-life blocks with the virtual world

The creators of the Lego video games are building their own rendition of a toys-to-life franchise.

Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment and TT Games unveiled plans Thursday for Lego Dimensions, a game and toy line combining real-world Lego bricks and figures with virtual game worlds depicted on screen. It's similar to the popular Skylanders, Disney Infinity and ambiiio series from Activision-Bizzard Inc., Walt Disney Co. and Nintendo Co.

Lego Dimensions will click together several Lego-ized versions of entertainment properties, including The Lord of the Rings, Back to the Future, DC Comics, The Wizard of Oz.

"I think The Lego Movie helped open the door," said TT Games managing director Jon Burton, who served as a producer on the film.

"We've found that everyone from the intellectual properties we've partnered with were hugely open to this idea. It's lent itself to creating this world where hopefully it's only bounded by the imagination of the kids playing it."

The series' starter pack, which is scheduled for release Sept. 27 for all major consoles at \$99.99, will include the game, a reader and pieces to construct a Lego portal on the device, as well as figures of Batman, the Bat-



Lego Dimensions is a game and toy line combining real-world Lego bricks and figures with virtual game worlds depicted on screen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

mobile, Gandalf and Wyldstyle from The Lego Movie. The trio is set to be voiced respectively by Troy Baker, Tom Kane and Elizabeth Banks.

The reader, which is divided into three sections and can detect up to seven Lego figures or vehicles at a time, doesn't visually scan the bricks.

Instead, the Lego figures and vehicles can be affixed to individually marked discs containing radio frequency

identification technology that's transmitted to the reader, just like the Skylanders and Infinity toys.

In a demonstration of Dimensions, the two-player action kicked off with heroes Batman, Gandalf and Wyldstyle being ripped from their respective realms and teleported to Oz to restore an interdimensional gateway. At one point, the Caped Crusader from the Lego games crossed paths with the surly

Batman of The Lego Movie.

"It's a mashup," said Warner Bros. Interactive producer Doug Heder. "When kids play with their toys, they don't play with one character from one world. They put all their toys together, and that's the experience we're trying to recreate in the game. You can bring characters together like Batman, Gandalf and Wyldstyle, who don't normally associate with each other."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Study of Dutch height tells a tall tale



Known as the world's tallest people, Dutch women stand at almost 5.6 feet tall on average. SHUTTERSTOCK

HEALTH

Why do the Dutch tower over us? It's all in the genes

The Netherlands is the land of giants: on average, its women stand at almost 5.6 feet tall, and its men 6.03 feet. But how the Dutch became the world's tallest people has been something of a mystery.

After all, two centuries ago they were renowned for being among the shortest. What happened since then?

A popular explanation is nutrition — a calorie-stuffed diet rich in meat and dairy products.

But that can't be the whole story, experts say. Other European countries, too, have enjoyed similar prosperity and a rise in living standards, yet their citizens have not shot skywards as much.

The average male height in the Netherlands has gained 20 centimetres (eight inches) in the last 150 years, according to military records. By comparison, the height of the average American man has risen a mere six centimetres over the same period.

metres over the same period.

Researchers led by Gert Stulp, a specialist in population health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, combed a Dutch database for clues.

Called LifeLines, the record contains exhaustive detail about the lives and health of more than 94,500 people who lived in the northern Netherlands from 1935 to 1967. In this three-decade snapshot, the people who had the most children were tall men, and women of average height, the team found.

For example, the most fertile men were seven centimetres above the average height. Statistically, they had 0.24 more children on average than the least fertile men, who were 14 centimetres below average height.

Compared to counterparts in other countries where they often tended to have fewer children, taller women also reproduced more in the Netherlands.

Many postponed having children until after their studies, but once they forged a successful relationship, often had a large family.

The study did not involve genetic testing, but concluded from the observations that natural se-

lection must have played a part: with time, more and more Dutch started sporting tall genes.

"Natural selection in addition to good environmental conditions may help explain why the Dutch are so tall," said the study published Wednesday in the Royal Society journal *Proceedings B*.

"Height is very heritable — taller parents tend to have somewhat taller children than shorter parents," Stulp told AFP.

"Because taller individuals would have more offspring in the next generation who would be taller, the average height in that generation would be a bit taller on average than the preceding generation, if all else is equal."

There seems to be a cultural preference as well.

Stulp pointed to figures showing that, in the United States, shorter women and men of average height have the most reproductive success.

"There is much variation in what men and women want," he said. "When it comes to choosing a mate, height tends to have (only) a small effect, which is not very surprising given the many other, more important, traits people value in their mate."

AFP

UNITED STATES

Teen pregnancy on the decline

The birth rate among U.S. teenagers has continued to decline, but health authorities said Tuesday that even greater strides could be made if more teens used long-acting forms of contraception.

More than 273,000 babies were born to mothers aged 15 to 19 in 2013, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The teen birth rate in 2013, the most recent year in which data is available, was 26.5 births per 1,000 teenagers.

The rate was more than double that in 1991, when the birth rate was 61.8 births per 1,000 teens.

"Improved contraceptive use has contributed substantially to this decline," said the CDC Vital Signs report.

"A key strategy for further reducing teen pregnancy is increas-

ing awareness, access and availability of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC), specifically intrauterine devices."

Nearly 90 per cent of sexually active teens surveyed said they used birth control the last time they had sex. The most common forms of contraception were condoms and birth control pills.

However, relatively few teens are opting for implants and intrauterine devices, which are the most effective kinds of birth control.

Long-acting reversible contraception use among teens was 0.4 per cent in 2005 to but rose to 7.1 per cent in 2013.

Of the 616,148 female teens the CDC studied in 2013, 17,349 (2.8 per cent) used IUDs, and 26,347 (4.3 per cent) used implants.

"LARC is safe to use, does not require taking a pill every day or



The birth control pill is one of the most common forms of contraception. SHUTTERSTOCK

doing something every time before having sex, and, depending on the method, can be used to prevent pregnancy for three to 10 years," said the CDC report.

However, the CDC stressed that LARC does not protect against sexually transmitted diseases. AFP

IN BRIEF

Qataris spend millions on car number plates

Super-rich Qataris are splashing out millions on "fancy" car number plates in an online auction run by a government department. So far, more than 4.2 million Qatari riyals (\$1.1 million) have been pledged on just 24 separate

and unique car registration numbers being auctioned by the interior ministry of the energy-rich state. The bidding started on Tuesday afternoon and ends on Thursday night. By Wednesday, the highest single bid was 460,000 riyals for the number plate 377773. As

in Dubai, owning a distinct number plate has become a desirable status symbol for Qataris to publicly show off their wealth. Most in demand are those with fewer numbers — most ordinary Qatari registration plates have six figures — repeated digits, or those in sequence. AFP

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HEALTH

Taylor Swift's mom is battling cancer

Taylor Swift revealed to her fans that her mother has cancer.

Swift wrote about the news in a post on her Tumblr on Thursday, which her representative confirmed.

Swift wants to keep the details private, but said her mother wanted fans to know what was going on.

The 25-year-old singer said she asked her mother to see her doctors as a Christmas gift. She said "there were no red flags," but they later learned Andrea Swift had cancer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Taylor Swift GETTY IMAGES

MESSAGE

Though Swift is the superstar, Andrea has become a favourite among Swift's fans, often earning cheers from audiences at live

shows.

Swift also encouraged her young fans to remind their parents to go to the doctor and get checkups.

COURT RECORDS

Jon Hamm accused in violent '90 hazing

Court records show Mad Men star Jon Hamm was accused of taking part in a violent 1990 fraternity hazing at the University of Texas.

The Emmy-nominated actor had not previously been publicly linked to a Sigma Nu pledge who had sued after he said was dragged around by a hammer and had his pants lit on fire.

The pledge said Hamm participated "till the very end."

The 1991 lawsuit was filed in Austin and obtained by The Associated Press. Hamm's involvement was first reported

by the Daily Mail.

Representatives for Hamm and Mad Men creator Matthew Weiner did not immediately respond to requests for comment Thursday.

Criminal records show Hamm was charged with hazing and received probation. University records show Hamm left the school the same semester as the hazing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jon Hamm GETTY IMAGES

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Hemingway tackles addiction in memoir

MARIEL HEMINGWAY

Tough topics covered by granddaughter of literary icon

Many people remember Mariel Hemingway best from her portrayal of the sweet teenager Tracy in Woody Allen's Manhattan, where she delivered the film's uplifting closing line, a reminder that "You have to have a little faith in people."

But Hemingway herself, then only 16, was living a life with much darkness in it; her family was plagued by alcoholism, drug addiction and mental illness. And suicide — including her famous grandfather, Ernest Hemingway, in 1961, and sister Margaux, the former supermodel, in 1996.

Hemingway, now 53, has written two new memoirs, *Out Came the Sun*, and a young-adult version, *Invisible Girl*, in which she frankly recounts her family's struggles. Here are some excerpts from a recent interview.

You write at length about alcoholism, drug addiction, mental illness and suicide in your family. Do you feel all these things are connected?

Yes, especially in my family. Look at my grandfather, this extraordinary man, Ernest Hemingway, the greatest writer of the 20th century. But he was also self-medicating pain with a lot of drinking. Then I look at my oldest sister (Muffet), who is still alive, who is wonderful, but ... I think her schizophrenia and mental health issues were triggered

by drug addiction. My other sister as well, she was a major alcoholic. And you know, it's a chemical. It changes your brain. In my family, it was never one glass of wine. It was a bottle. And it changes people.

You write about how you've had seven people in your family commit suicide. And you've been involved in suicide prevention efforts. Do we have a lot to learn about suicide?

Suicide is extremely complex. It is not necessarily somebody who suffers long-term mental illness. It can be planned for 20 years, or it can happen out of the blue. And we just need to talk more about it because there is a tremendous amount of shame around suicide. It was a long healing process for me, to understand how my own sister could commit suicide and knowing that I thought she was doing really well, and you'll see that in many situations. The reason I wrote these books is so that if Mariel Hemingway, who comes from this family that everybody (knows), if SHE talks about her story, maybe I get someone suffering somewhere in silence to find a safe space to tell their story. So that they can start to heal.

Why did you write the young adult book?

Because that's (the age) when I was the most scared. Also when I was the most confused. A lot of kids don't know that there's somebody out there that gets it. You don't know it's not normal. I thought that when parents fought and there was broken glass and blood on the wall, that you cleaned it up because



Mariel Hemingway recounts her famous family's struggles in two new memoirs. DAN HALLMAN/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

this was your job.

Your family name has quite a legacy attached to it. Are you hoping to influence it?

I'd hate to be so egotistical to think I was adding to the legacy of my family. But the same time I do feel a responsibility to honour it. And there's a lot of misinterpretations. I don't think my grandfather was a great writer because he drank too much and lived a hard life,

I think he was a great writer because he worked really hard to be a great writer. And if he were to do it all over again, he wouldn't do it drinking. And the irony is, he never wrote drunk. That was a rule of his. So obviously at some level he understood that, and I just want people to appreciate the greatness of my family and also appreciate how we are just like everyone else at the same time, in some way. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the fourth glass of wine they were not the same people, their eyes had dropped and there was a darkness that had sort of overcome them. Mariel Hemingway on her parents and sisters, and their drinking

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A nation in love with pirating

WORLD

Zimbabwe's hyperinflation has helped drive illegal film sales

BY THE NUMBERS

- **231 million per cent:** Zimbabwe's inflation rate in 2008
- **Five:** The number of movie theatres left in the country,
- **population 13 million.**
- **\$1:** The cost of a pirated film.
- **\$6:** The cost of movie ticket. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When Zimbabwe's censors blacked out scenes from the film adaptation of the best-selling erotic novel *Fifty Shades of Grey*, many Zimbabwean movie lovers couldn't care less. They soon had another option, that was more explicit and cheaper.

The southern African nation's continued economic difficulties have led to such a successful black market of pirated DVDs that many cinemas have been forced to close. Many Zimbabweans now prefer the small screen in their living rooms, watching pirated copies of new film releases to save money, and in turn bringing the curtain down on the big screen experience.

Before the Zimbabwean dollar collapsed under record 231 million per cent inflation in 2008, cinemas were common in cities and towns. Even in the poorest neighbourhoods, local councils ran cinemas that were a hit with children and adults. Today, only five movie theatres remain in the country of 13 million people.

"A movie costs a dollar. Going to the movie houses costs \$6 per person. You can do the math and you see why I stay at home," said Samantha Baranza, 26, a clerk at a Harare automotive spare parts distributor.

Traders swarm Harare's streets, openly displaying a variety of pirated movie titles on the capital's sidewalks. Dozens of hawkers mill around shopping malls trying to sell pirated movies and music.

Despite public campaigns against piracy and pledges by police to stamp out piracy, street trader Quinton Rushushe openly carries a bunch of DVDs in his hands. Dozens more discs are in his satchel as he jostles for customers with hordes of other traders trying to sell copies to motorists and shoppers at Fife Avenue Shopping Centre, just a few streets from the police headquarters.

"Police officers can't afford to go to the movies so they are our loyal customers.

Police officers can't afford to go to the movies so they are our loyal customers. Some of them give me their phone numbers and I always call them when a new exciting movie is out.

Street trader Quinton Rushushe

Some of them give me their phone numbers and I always call them when a new exciting movie is out so they can buy while it's still hot," he said. Selling pirated discs is the only job Rushushe has known since leaving school in 2012. He said he gets his wares for

30 cents a copy from a friend "who has a computer." On a good day he sells up to 15 copies at a dollar each.

Police spokesman Paul Nyathi said: "We have arrested dozens but the challenge is that piracy is closely associated with vendors who are



A vendor sells pirated movie DVDs to passing motorists in central Harare. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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INTERNET

YouTube to offer paid service

In an email to its original content creators, YouTube confirmed plans to offer a paid monthly subscription service to its users, possibly before the end of this year.

Similar to those offered

by music streaming platforms, the subscription would allow users to enjoy ad-free videos and

could generate a major revenue stream for Google, considering that YouTube has over 1 billion unique users.

According to the few official figures released by Google, YouTube clocks in several billion views per day, half of which are from mobile terminals (smartphones and tablets). Internet users watch hundreds of millions of hours of videos on the platform daily, according to the company.

AFF

300

Hours of video are added every minute to YouTube.

AFF

mushrooming everywhere so it's not an easy battle."

With the closure of many companies, over two thirds of adult Zimbabweans have resorted to informal trading, according to the African Development Bank. First Lady Grace Mugabe has warned police against targeting vendors, who she says are simply trying to beat harsh economic conditions.

Struggling to survive, the remaining movie distributors are experimenting with new marketing strategies, such as giving away free movie tickets at pizza houses, slashing prices by half on certain days

and advertising in neighbourhoods via megaphone.

"Business has been going down. Our major competition is coming from home entertainment, which is what most people are resorting to nowadays because of the cheap DVDs flooding the streets," said Tawanda Pswarayi, controller at movie distributor Ster-Kinekor, which has the only remaining cinema houses in the country. At times, only 10 people arrive to watch a show in a 200-seater auditorium, he said.

Zimbabwe's strict censorship has made the cinema even less entertaining. In Feb-

ruary, only two of the three cinemas left showed *Fifty Shades of Grey*, but heavy censorship cut out so many sexually explicit scenes that movie distributors decided to stop showing the tame edit after only a few screenings.

A little more than a week after its release, pirated copies of the film hit the streets, selling for as low as 50 cents a copy and bypassing censorship.

In buildings where movie theatres once existed in Zimbabwe, evangelical churches are now frequently flourishing. Daily services are packed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Director banks on 35mm magic

CUT BANK

Matt Shakman forges digital, gives up salary for debut film



Richard Crouse
Metro | Canada

Cut Bank director Matt Shakman has something in common with 35mm film fanatics Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino. For his movie debut the director insisted on shooting on film rather than digital.

"I'm an analogue kind of guy," he says. "To do this movie, which is about a town that feels trapped in a distant era, it felt right to shoot it on film. We had to find a way to deal with the financial impact of it, but I found a solution to that. I gave up my salary in order to do it."

"I'll only get a chance to make a first movie once and to make it on film feels special. I may never get a chance to do it again."

Set in the hamlet of Cut Bank, Mont., the action begins when auto mechanic Dwayne (Liam Hemsworth) accidentally videotapes the murder of the local postman (Bruce Dern). He reports the crime to the local sheriff (John Malkovich), hoping for reward money, but there are complications in the form of the suspicious father of his girlfriend (Billy Bob Thornton), a postal inspector (Oliver Platt) and a reclusive man (Michael Stuhlbarg) violently obsessed with getting his mail.

The script appeared on Hollywood's 2009 black list of the best unproduced films and has been in Shakman's hands for five years.

In the beginning he simply loved the twisty-turny story.

"Then," he says, "I (became) like a dog chasing a rabbit at the track. You get these tantalizing elements that start to make everything feel more real."

"When someone like John Malkovich signs on it is so helpful for so many reasons. One, the pleasure, personally, of getting to work with one of my heroes. Two, he certainly helps tell other actors that this

“You get these tantalizing elements that start to make everything feel more real.”

Matt Shakman on making Cut Bank

is a party worth coming to and the third thing is just the business reality of having a person in the film who can help you with financing."

Shakman says he knows after the film's theatrical run "a lot of people will see Cut Bank on their iPads," and while he prefers the communal experience of watching movies with an audience, he knows times are changing.

"They'll also watch Breaking Bad (on their tablets), so the line has blurred very much between the two kinds of content. It's all just become stories and where you choose to find them and how you want them delivered."



Crime thriller Cut Bank stars Billy Bob Thornton and Liam Hemsworth. CONTRIBUTED

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Lucy Lawless has a strange idea of fun

INTERVIEW

The Salem star lets us in on her bizarre guilty pleasure

As Lucy Lawless is well aware, there are worse ways to spend a day at work than doing interviews promoting your new TV show. "We could be carrying bricks on a hill in Bangladesh," she offers.

But as we meet up in downtown Austin, Texas, to discuss her role on Salem, there is definitely something else she'd rather be doing — at the courthouse just down the street.

"I like to watch jury selections," she says.

"It's so interesting, you get to learn information about people's lives that's so dramatic. And yes, it's a bit voyeuristic, but you get to see true life, that way and the harsh truth behind it."



I started about four years ago, going to actual courthouses. But I read about the law all the time, about defence cases or prosecution cases.

Lucy Lawless

How often do you do this?

Oh, once a week. They don't always have jury selection, but I do enjoy that. You don't always know what the case is about, but sometimes you can get the information. I kind of have a scoop of who's a good person to go to for information at each courthouse. See, I'm never bored in any town because I always have my go-to activity.

Where did this come from?

I've always been interested. There are a lot of defence attorneys in my extended family and in my immediate, and I'm interested in the law and how it plays out. I'm interested in truth-telling, and I realized that I think I've got a good bulls — meter, but you realize I know nothing. Because if you grow up in a home where it's a level playing field and the world is trustworthy, you don't need to lie to survive. But people

who live in a very unstable environment growing up, where lying may be a matter of survival, they're so good at it, and criminals are so good at it. Or sometimes you can see witnesses struggling to maintain a lie. Sometimes you can pick them, but often you cannot. And then the evidence will show that you were wrong. So I love all of that. It's human sleuthing.

So how long have you been sitting in on jury selections?



Lucy Lawless, left, stars in the second season of Salem. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

I started about four years ago, going to actual court-

houses. But I read about the law all the time, about

defence cases or prosecution cases. Because human beings, you know? Louisiana has a death penalty case coming up. It was aggravated rape of a minor this week, but you don't always know what the case is. I've got to listen very carefully and read between the lines, figure out what the charge is going to be from the questions they ask the jury.

Most people in the U.S. are trying to get out of jury duty.

You would think so! But yeah, in communities that are quite impoverished — and Louisiana's a poor state — that small amount of stipend you get for being a juror? Not so bad, you know? Maybe? I'm guessing here. But I don't see a lot of people trying to get out of it. A few, yes, a few are just honestly like, "I'm going to find this person guilty." Like, "You hurt a dog, you're finished with me," if it's an animal cruelty case.

But you've never been on one yourself.

I would like to, if I was not working. There was only one time I got called, and that was while I was doing Xena. It would've put so many people out of work, so I begged off. But I'll do it for sure one day when I'm available. If they want me.

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FILM

Tax credit cut a 'stake through the heart' of N.S.

Those working in Nova Scotia's film and television industry sounded the death knell for its future Thursday after the provincial government cut a tax credit many say they rely on for their survival.

Producer Marc Almon said the cut is a "stake through the heart" of the province's film industry.

"The film industry, as we know it, is gone," said Almon, who is also chairman of Screen Nova Scotia, an advocacy or-

ganization for the province's screen-based industry. "Not only will it affect thousands of jobs. We're going to see more youth going down the road, a loss of immigrants, a loss of economic potential."

Starting July 1, the province announced in its budget that the film tax credit will only cover 25 per cent of eligible costs, allowing film companies to claim the other 75 per cent of the credit against taxes they

owe to the province. Eligible costs are fully refunded under the current structure of the tax credit, which is worth \$24 million a year. Thursday's budget reduces the credit to \$6 million.

In 2013, film and television productions in Nova Scotia generated the equivalent of 2,700 full-time jobs and \$139 million in spending, says Screen Nova Scotia. The organization says the preliminary estimate for 2014 is about \$151 million.

Mike Volpe, whose production credits include the Trailer Park Boys and Mr. D, says the government is overlooking the money brought in by film and television projects.

"Without the tax credit here in Nova Scotia, shows do not get produced in Nova Scotia. That is the simple thing," said Volpe, adding that productions including his own will likely leave Nova Scotia as a result of the changes. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Trailer Park Boys is a Nova Scotia-produced TV show that may leave the province in response to an upcoming tax credit cut.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sandra Bullock not expected to testify

CELEBRITY STALKING

Star's 911 call about home intruder played at hearing

Sandra Bullock hid in her bedroom closet and sounded panicked and tearful at times as she guided police into her house after spotting an intruder last year, according to a 911 call played in court Thursday.

The Oscar-winning actress called police after seeing a man in her home heading for the attic. The roughly 15-minute conversation with a 911 dispatcher is the first piece of evidence a prosecutor presented against Joshua Corbett, who is charged with stalking the actress and breaking into her home in June.

"I'm in my closet. I have a safe door," Bullock, breathing heavily, is heard telling the

dispatcher. "I'm locked in the closet right now."

Bullock gave the dispatcher a description of the man and said she went out to investigate noises in her home.

"I thought it was a wind blowing," Bullock said. "Then I saw the person."

A police officer testified that Corbett was clutching a black notebook with a two-page letter to Bullock and magazine photos of the actress when he was arrested.

"He said, 'I'm sorry. I love you Sandy,'" Los Angeles police Officer Jose Bermudez testified.

Security footage showed Corbett outside Bullock's gate each of the three days before his arrest.

Corbett was not armed when he was arrested at Bullock's residence, police have said.

Corbett, 39, has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



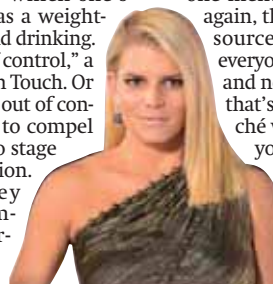
Sandra Bullock. ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

FAILED INTERVENTION

Jess's Adderall mess

First of all, Jessica Simpson reportedly has a problem with Adderall — which she's been using as a weight-loss aid — and drinking. "She's out of control," a source tells In Touch. Or at least she's out of control enough to compel her family to stage an intervention. Which they totally fumbled, apparently. "Jess is

in complete denial right now ... she's made it clear that if anyone mentions her 'problem' again, they'll be cut off," the source says. "So for now, everyone is walking on pins and needles." I don't think that's exactly how that cliché works, but sure, I get your point. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Jessica Simpson

ROYAL BIRTH

Kate to make more time for baby No. 2

Kate Middleton is gearing up to give birth to her second child — a daughter, reportedly — and this time she's planning to take more time off for maternity leave than she did with Prince George. But leave from what, exactly? "She felt she came back too soon last time. She wants to have that (time) and enjoy it with George and the new baby," a source tells People magazine. And while Queen Elizabeth's

reaction to the request is unknown, Prince Charles is reportedly all for it.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Kate Middleton

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So much for diversity: White guys still rule

HOLLYWOOD

Women, ethnic casts viable, but ratios favour status quo

The Fast & Furious series is often cited as an example of how diversity can work in Hollywood. With its multicultural casts and international settings, the franchise has generated more than \$2.4 billion in global earnings. The latest instalment, Furious 7, set box-office records last weekend with its \$147-million domestic opening.

"Usually, big studio tent-pole films are all very whitewashed," says Furious 7 director James Wan. "People need to learn from this, because this is the way of the future."

Wan says the Furious films play well globally "because they have people from that part of the world in the movies and they're not treated like second-class citizens."

The dearth of diversity in Hollywood was heavy on the entertainment industry's mind during awards season, when the #OscarSoWhite hashtag went viral and host Neil Patrick Harris joked about honouring the "best and whitest — sorry — brightest" at the Academy Awards.

32 films

The Associated Press did a survey of about 170 films scheduled for release this year, and determined that only 32 of them will feature actors of colour in prominent roles.

Yet despite the success of films like Furious 7 and increased awareness of the industry's white, male status quo, change won't be seen onscreen anytime soon.

True, this year's movies were made before the Oscar outcry. But whether onscreen diversity

improves over time as production catches up to new awareness remains to be seen. One thing's for certain, though: Much work lies ahead.

Studies by researchers at UCLA and USC show vast underrepresentation of women and minorities in every aspect of filmmaking.

"Recognizing a problem and changing it are two very different beasts," said Cathy Schulman, the Oscar-winning producer of Crash and president of Women in Film.

In insular, high-risk, high-profit Hollywood, change has to be insistent and intentional, said Darnell Hunt, director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA.

"It's not going to correct itself naturally," said the sociology professor, co-author of UCLA's annual report on minority representation in the industry. "I suspect we'll have more and more dysfunction and lack of alignment of people in the industry holding onto an approach they've had for generations and ignoring where America is."



Michelle Rodriguez, top, and Ludacris in Furious 7. ALL PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

His team's ongoing study of the entertainment industry aims to quantify the relationship between diversity and profitability. Their second annual Hollywood diversity report, released in February, shows that while women and minorities are underrepresented across entertainment relative to the U.S. population, movies and TV shows with diverse casts tend to perform well in ratings and at the box office.

"There's a myth of people of colour not being viable inter-

nationally when the rest of the world is diverse," Hunt said.

Film and TV studio heads — found by the UCLA study to be overwhelmingly white and male — usually hire people they've worked with before, which reproduces the dismal ethnic and gender ratios. A recent study by USC and the advocacy group Women in Film shows women have represented fewer than five per cent of directors of top films during the past two decades.

People of colour have made

incremental progress recently in some areas of the entertainment business, the UCLA study found. Lead roles for non-white actors in film and TV increased by about 1 1/2 per cent in 2013 over the previous year. But even with the success of minority-led TV series such as The Mindy Project, Scandal and How to Get Away With Murder, "non-white showrunners account for less than six per cent of all broadcast scripted fare, the study found.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Aaron Paul in Need for Speed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDUSTRY TREND

Need for Speed sequel has Chinese co-producer on board

Appetite for 2014's Need for Speed meant that Chinese audiences contributed \$66 million of the film's \$203 million take — more than any other territory, including the U.S., and matching the movie's production budget.

The sequel, announced this week, is expected to be shot in China, with a cast and crew featuring Chinese talent.

It's part of a trend that sees U.S. companies pay more and more attention to a global market, specifically a Chinese one,

as China's biggest production studios become increasingly important.

Transformers: Age of Extinction signified that sea-change in attitudes towards Chinese co-operation.

Fourth in the Michael Bay

film series, it actually had a lower budget than its two immediate predecessors, but outdid all three forerunners in terms of box office domination.

As with Need for Speed, China Movie Channel and Jiaflix Enterprise came on board

to co-produce.

A good portion of filming took place in Hong Kong and on the mainland, ensuring a significant slice of Chinese action — even more for Chinese audiences, who received a localized, alternative cut. AFP

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Everything noodle under the sun

JAPAN

Ramen soup so revered entire museums are devoted to it

There are two kinds of ramen in this world. There's the packaged staple of dorm-room cuisine, one of the most processed, industrialized foods ever invented. And then there's the trendy, artisanal, hand-made soup that fans line up for hours to try.

But in Japan, ramen isn't just for eating: There are entire museums devoted to it. Yokohama, a short train ride from Tokyo, has one museum for instant ramen and another for handmade ramen, and both offer samples to taste or take home.

At the Shin-Yokohama Raumen Museum (the extra u gives the word a retro feel), you'll find nine shops showcasing different styles of ramen. The English brochure helpfully describes the soup at each, noting whether the noodles are straight, curly or wrinkled, and how thick they are using a five-point scale. The richness of the broth is also rated on a five-point scale.

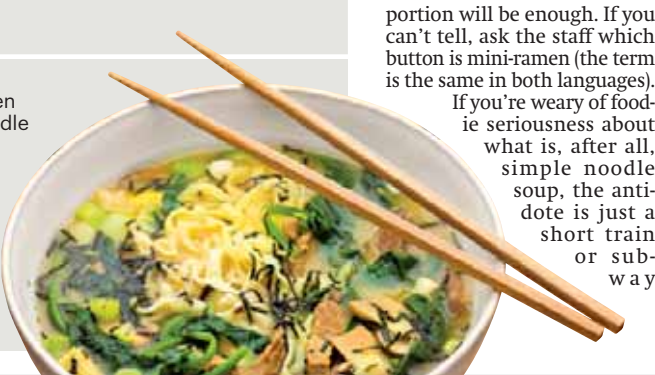
At each shop, you order and pay for your ramen in an old-fashioned way, via a ticket vending machine in front with photos on the buttons. Some varieties are offered in small portions so you can try more than one type, although for some visitors, one small



Instant ramen soup packages on display at the Cup Noodle Museum in Yokohama, Japan. The museum honours the inventor of instant ramen. LINDA LOMBARDI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IF YOU GO

Ramen museums
Shin-Yokohama Raumen Museum and Cup Noodle Museum in Yokohama, are about 45 minutes by train from Tokyo.
Websites that have directions in English: raumen.co.jp/english/ and cupnoodles-museum.jp/english/



portion will be enough. If you can't tell, ask the staff which button is mini-ramen (the term is the same in both languages). If you're weary of foodie seriousness about what is, after all, simple noodle soup, the antidote is just a short train or subway



An exhibit at Shin-Yokohama Raumen Museum, a food theme park devoted to ramen noodles, depicting storefronts in a re-created 1958 shopping district. LINDA LOMBARDI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ride away: Yokohama also has a branch of the Cup Noodle Museum.

Where Shin-Yokohama Raumen Museum is a food theme park for adults, Cup Noodle Museum is designed for kids. The small print on its brochure notes that it's formally named the Momofuku Ando Instant Ramen Museum after the inventor of instant ramen. Run by an educational foundation that Ando started, the fun here is designed to support some high-minded goals with exhibits about creativity and invention.

Exhibits include a reproduction of the modest shack where Ando invented Chicken Ramen, a display of the astonishing number of varieties of instant ramen that the Nissan Food Products company has produced since then, and a food court called Noodles Bazaar. And there's a play area where kids can experience the Cup Noodle manufacturing process from the point of view of the noodle.

The main attraction here, though, is the make-your-own section. For a separate fee for a timed ticket, kids (or adults) can make their own personal Cup Noodle, decorating the cup, then putting in the noodles and choosing the soup and toppings. Watch the lid get sealed and the whole cup shrink-wrapped, then your creation is enclosed in a cool protective package that you pump air into to cushion it on the trip home. A warning: Cup Noodle Museum, educational as it is, is extremely popular with school groups and is packed with them some weekdays.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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TRAVEL NOTES FROM FINDING THE LOWEST AIRFARES TO TIPS FOR WEST HOLLYWOOD

New: All-natural travel kits

The Canadian-made Consonant natural skin-care line has launched a couple of new travel kits full of miniatures of some of their top products. The company uses organic



botanical ingredients, affirming that what goes on your body also goes in your body. Includes The Perfect

Sunscreen, one of the smoothest, most non-greasy, mineral-based sunscreens out there. Pictured set, \$225. Visit ConsonantSkincare.com.

Bucket List: West Hollywood

While L.A. can be overwhelming, choosing West Hollywood as your home base will make it manageable. There's a lot to do: Check out the up-and-coming comedians at the Comedy Store on Sunset Strip or prop up a corner of the bar at the Chateau Marmont. Pop into the Standard Hotel (pictured) for a dip in



the pool and some lunch or play Spot the Celebrity at the Mondrian Hotel patio bar.

Tip: Find the lowest airfares

It's sometimes not where you search for cheap flights, but when. The moment you see an airline sale, wait until the next afternoon to hunt for a



fare, because all the airline's competitors will be

trying to match the previous day's sale price. The sweet spot for buying domestic tickets is 55 days in advance. Best day to fly? Tuesday, because there is less demand for seats and the prices are lower. DOUG WALLACE

Skydive without leaving Earth

iFLY

Experience weightlessness at iFly Toronto wind tunnel

There is a place just outside Toronto where humans can fly.

And flying makes a nice birthday gift, especially for a 12-year-old playing hooky from school.

Suzanne Lyon took her son, Jack, out of school last week to skydive indoors at iFly Toronto in Oakville, Ont.

Jack falls into the vertical wind tunnel where air rushes from below up to 250 km/h, or "a couple hurricanes" worth of wind.

Then he floats for a minute or two, like a skydiver would do after jumping from a plane. The experience is similar to free falling without the crippling fear that can come

with hurtling toward Earth at breakneck speeds.

He dips, dives and sometimes crashes into the wall of the cylindrical chamber with instructor Adrian Uracz standing nearby, sometimes pulling him back and helping him.

He looks a little like a bird learning to fly.

Jack says it was "amazing" and "extraordinary" and "awesome."

But the actual experience is difficult to describe.

"I don't know what to say," says the boy of few words. But he smiles a lot.

Uracz is more verbal. "It's such a different feeling from what you would have in your everyday life."

Later the instructor shows the rookies how to really fly in the chamber, twisting, turning, flipping and floating at will, as if he lives in a world without gravity. Flyers can learn these tricks over time through iFly's academy with coaches like Uracz.

The facility opened last May and there are 23 others like it around the world, but a wind tunnel in Montreal is the only other one in Canada.

Four giant fans at the top of the building powered by 350-horsepower engines act



Jeff Finkler, left, is guided by an instructor while trying indoor skydiving at iFly Toronto.

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ IF YOU GO

What you need to know

- iFly Toronto is open daily. Flights begin at \$72.
- There are risks involved and pregnant women and those who have dislocated their shoulders previously shouldn't participate.
- Children aged four and up can fly but must be accompanied by an adult.
- Find out more at: ifly-toronto.com

like a vacuum and suck air up, before sending it back down nearby vents to recirculate. The flyer floats in the middle of this vacuum.

Both Jack and his mother have come before.

Her husband surprised Suzanne Lyon one date night with a trip to iFly — she thought they were going mini-golfing. They returned to let Jack fly and expect they'll be back many times in the future.

Maybe he'll never be able to put the experience into words, but if he can, it will surely involve a lot of superlatives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Spieth in familiar spot at the top

MASTERS

21-year-old has three-stroke lead after the first round

Jordan Spieth was already one of the hottest players on the PGA Tour.

He showed no signs of letting up at the Masters.

There are still three rounds to go, but the 21-year-old Spieth looks very much like the one to beat after opening with an 8-under 64 and making a serious run at the major championship scoring record Thursday.

If not for a blunder at the par-5 15th, where Spieth's tee shot left him perfectly positioned for no worse than a birdie but he wound up making bogey, he very well could have been the first player to shoot 62 at one of golf's biggest events.

As it was, Spieth came up just short of the record, which is 63, but can't complain about a three-shot lead heading to Friday.

Ernie Els, Justin Arnold Palmer, left, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player got things started Thursday as the honorary starters.

+

CANCON

In Canadian results, amateur Corey Connors of Listowel, Ont., was 8 over while 2003 Masters champion Mike Weir of Bright's Grove, Ont., was 10 over.

Rose, Jason Day and Charley Hoffman all shot 67. Sergio Garcia and Russell Henley were another stroke back with 68s.

"To make nine birdies out there, that's a dreamy round for me," Spieth said. "It was a lot of fun."

None of this should be a surprise. Not the way he was playing leading up to Augusta, having won, finished second, and lost in a playoff in his three previous tournaments. Not the way he played a year ago in his Masters debut, leading on Sunday before fading down the stretch to finish in a tie for second behind Bubba Watson.



Jordan Spieth receives a loud ovation upon scoring a birdie to end his first round of the Masters on Thursday in Augusta, Ga. ANDREW REDINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

Maybe it was the experience last time that kept from getting too worked up about his brilliant start. There's an endless list of players who led a major after the opening round and were long gone by Sunday.

But it would be a huge surprise if Spieth fades away.

"I was leading last year at one point by a couple of shots on Sunday," he recalled. "It didn't go my way.

I know how many things can happen in a major championship. I'll try to learn from last year and stay patient these next three rounds."

Meanwhile, Tiger Woods displayed improvement in his return to competitive golf. He's still got a lot of work to do, however, before he's ready to compete for his 15th major championship.

Woods finished with a 1-over 73.

"You know, I'm still in it," Woods insisted. "I'm only nine

back. And we have a long way to go. And we don't know what the Masters is going to do, what they're going to do with the greens or the golf course. You know how they like to change things every now and then."

Pre-tournament favourite Rory McIlroy bogeyed No. 11 putting him at 1 over before coming up with two birdies on the next four holes to give him a 1-under 71 for the opening round Thursday.

"I just kept telling myself to be patient out there today,"

McIlroy said. "It was a tricky day. The wind was swirling a little bit. Pin positions were tough. Anything under par I felt was a pretty good score. It was nice to pick up a couple birdies on the back nine on the par 5s there. Pretty satisfied with today's work."

The Northern Irishman said he likes how he is driving the ball and needs some of that patience with his irons.

"I'll hope to be right there at the end of the week," McIlroy said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Senators centre Mika Zibanejad collides with Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist on Thursday night at Madison Square Garden. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Momentum in Manhattan

NHL

Hammond stands tall as Sens move into wild-card spot

Clarke MacArthur and Kyle Turris scored in a 1:04 span late in the second period and the Ottawa Senators' continued their dazzling playoff push behind goaltender Andrew Hammond with a 3-0 victory over the New York Rangers on Thursday night.

Hammond had 26 saves in collecting his third shutout as the Senators improved to 22-4-4 since

Feb. 10, giving them 97 points in the wild five-team race for the final four playoff spots in the Eastern Conference.

Hammond has been the difference for Ottawa. The 27-year-old is 19-1-2 since taking over as the starting goaltender on Feb. 8, and this win over the Presidents' Cup winners avenged his only regulation loss.

Jean-Gabriel Pageau scored into an empty net with 1:39 to play.

The Rangers tested Hammond, particularly in the third period but The Hamburglar stood tall.

Henrik Lundqvist made 24 saves in seeing his four-game winning streak and the Rangers' five-game run stopped.

The loss in their regular-season home finale prevented the Rangers (52-21-7) from breaking their franchise record for wins (52) and points (112), both set in 1993-94, the last time they won the Stanley Cup. New York will close its season at Washington on Saturday.

The Senators took the lead in the final three minutes of the second period, less than a minute after Hammond slid across the crease to make a pad stop on Kevin Hayes with the net wide open. All Hayes had to do was lift the puck and he slid it into the goaltender.

MacArthur put the Senators ahead when he ripped a Mark Stone pass from behind the net past Lundqvist from low in the left circle. It was his 16th goal of the season and third in the last six games.

Turris increased the margin 64 seconds later with a deflection of MacArthur's shot. The puck bounced on the ice after it was redirected and Lundqvist made a snapping glove move to get a piece of it. However, it fell out of his glove, went over his shoulder and dropped into the net.

New York made its push in the opening 10 minutes of the third period, sending at least a half-dozen good scoring chances at Hammond. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ MORE SCORES

Canadiens 4, Red Wings 3

Lars Eller scored 1:21 into overtime to lift Montreal to a victory over Detroit giving Carey Price a team record 43rd win of the season.

Detroit qualified for the playoffs by earning a point in the overtime loss.

Panthers 4, Bruins 2

Roberto Luongo earned his 401st career win and Jaromir Jagr got his 1,800th career point, helping the Florida Panthers beat Boston, damaging the Bruins' playoff hopes.

The Bruins have lost two straight after winning their previous five games. They trail Ottawa by two points and Pittsburgh by one for the eighth and final spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Wild 4, Predators 2

Jason Pominville scored with 2:03 remaining in regulation to give the Minnesota Wild a victory over the Nashville Predators. Jason Zucker scored twice and Marco Scandella had the other goal for Minnesota. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Tigers set AL shutout record to start season

The Detroit Tigers set the modern AL record for the longest shutout streak to start a season, extending their string to 24 innings while beating the Minnesota Twins 7-1 on Thursday.

Under new manager Paul Molitor, Minnesota (0-3) scored its lone run in the seventh.

Detroit broke the AL mark of 22 innings set by the 1947 Chicago White Sox. STATS said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lions re-sign Iannuzzi

The B.C. Lions signed Canadian receiver Marco Iannuzzi to a contract extension through the 2016 season Thursday.

The six-foot-one, 195-pounder from Calgary is entering his fifth season with the Lions, who selected him in the first round, sixth overall, of the 2011 CFL draft. Iannuzzi has registered 73 catches for 786 yards and seven touchdowns in 62 regular-season games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HERNANDEZ TRIAL

TV photographer banned from court

A photographer for a Boston TV station was banned from the murder trial of former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez on Thursday after he acknowledged following jurors to their parking spots, which the judge said was prohibited.

On the third day of deliberations, Superior Court Judge Susan Garsh banned Robert Cusanelli of WHDH-TV from the courthouse.

Two jurors informed the court Thursday morning that

16

Jurors have deliberated for nearly 16 hours over three days as of Thursday afternoon.

they saw someone watching them in a Ford Explorer. One took a picture of its license plate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ready in

Prep time: 15

Cook time: 35

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 425°F. Lightly coat a 9- x 13-inch casserole dish with vegetable spray.

2. Dust the chicken with the flour. In a large skillet lightly coated with cooking spray, add 2 tsp of the vegetable oil and set over medium heat. Add the chicken and sauté for about 8 minutes or until browned on all sides. Place in the casserole dish.

3. Wipe and respray the skillet, add the remaining 2 tsp of vegetable oil. Add the onion and sauté for 5 minutes. Add the mushrooms and sauté for 8 minutes or until the mushrooms are no longer wet. Add the bell pepper and sauté for 4 minutes.

4. Whisk together the soy sauce, hoisin sauce, water, garlic, ginger, sesame oil and rice vinegar in a small bowl. Add to the vegetables and cook for 1 minute. Pour over the chicken and bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the chicken is done. Garnish with sesame seeds and cilantro if using. Serve over rice or noodles.



Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb skinless boneless chicken thighs (about 6 thighs)
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 cups sliced onion
- 4 cups sliced button mushrooms
- 1 1/3 cups sliced yellow or red bell pepper
- 1 1/2 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 1/2 tbsp hoisin sauce
- 1 tbsp water
- 2 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 2 tsp finely chopped ginger
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 2 tsp rice vinegar
- 1 tsp toasted sesame seeds
- 3 tbsp chopped cilantro (optional)

Nutrition per serving

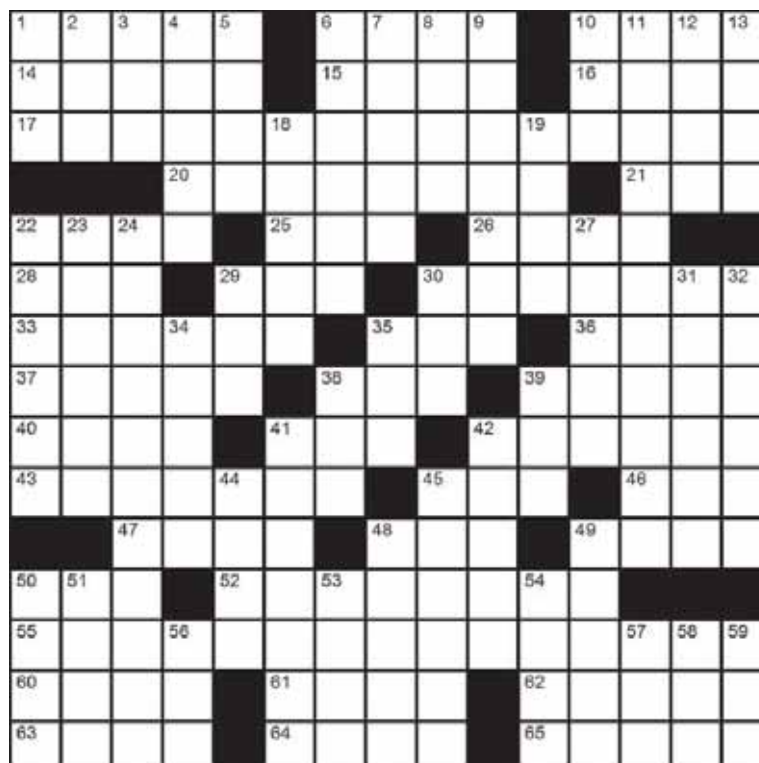
- Calories 264
- Protein 23 g
- Carbohydrates 10 g
- Fibre 1.2 g
- Total fat 14.6 g
- Saturated fat 3.0 g
- Cholesterol 74 mg
- Sodium 270 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ANSWERS ONLINE
metronews.ca



ACROSS

- Upcoming comedy, "Paul _; Mall Cop 2" (2015)
- Mario Puzo character
- Bright fish
- Oddity
- With: French
- Other
- Nova Scotia: The Lighthouse Route is one scenic drive ...and this is another: 2 wds.
- Quebec city/river
- Edible tuber
- Donkey/horse
- Bronze Roman money
- Headland
- _ _ budget
- Docs
- "Remedy" on Global TV star, Diego _ (Trivia! He won the first VJ Search for Much-Music in 1995)
- MLS properties
- Gives birth
- Collector's suffix
- Cook's covering
- Criticize
- Fibre-_ cable
- CNN's "The Wonder List with Bill _"
- Clear
- "Anchors _" (1945)
- Triangular bone
- Canadian hoops org.
- Slade's "Take Me Back _"
- Ink stain
- Scottish writer Josephine

- _ _ the kill
- Hearer
- Cameron _ (Canadian actor/TV host)
- Subject of "Lord of War" (2005) starring Nicolas Cage: 3 wds.
- Stare, stunned-style

- Q. "Is ' _ ' way to abbreviate Dublin's land?" A. "Indeed."
- Serf of Sparta
- US IDs
- Actress Barbara
- Acadian singer Ms. Butler

DOWN

- Pre-A.D. indicator
- Sweetie
- The Altar constellation
- Clean the fruit
- Attire for Augustus
- Appraises
- Brick wall plants
- Memphis, _

- Water-related Titan
- Poetic preposition
- Sony gaming system
- Laos' locale
- Leadership position
- "My word!"
- Salmon sort

- Punk rocker hairstyle
- Closed
- Host of CBC Radio 2 program The Signal (Trivia! She is a Much-Music alum and has a cameo in Corey Hart's "Sunglasses at Night" video): 2 wds.
- Straight-billed marsh bird
- Fellows
- Room cooler
- Puzzling problem
- Perfumed pouch
- _ _ Tracy, Quebec
- Milliner's creation
- Liveliness
- Mouse muncher
- Canadian musician Ms. MacMaster
- Chasm
- 1978 movie for Canadian actress Genevieve Bujold
- American retailer, _ Marcus
- Two-plus-one's sum
- Chris de Burgh's "The Lady _"
- Shelled things
- Woeful word
- Alimentation Couche_ Inc. (Canadian convenience store company)
- Will- _ _-wisp
- Library fare, briefly
- Ms. Landry
- Polka's pal
- Ordinal suffix

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Someone in a position of authority can and will help you out over the next 24 hours, if you ask them to. Not even an Aries can do it all by themselves.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you have a good idea today you must let others know about it, especially those who can support you and guide you. Sharing what you know is always good business.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Family matters are under excellent stars at the moment, so if you need to get back on good terms with a loved one now is the time to kiss and make up.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You will have to deal with a difficult person today but are advised not to do anything that could turn them against you. According to the planets you will need this person's assistance very soon.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will discover something about a friend or work colleague today that answers a lot of questions. What you discover might be amusing but you are advised to keep it to yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You need to make your peace with someone you have fallen out with in recent weeks. The planets suggest that if you make the effort you won't be disappointed.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Open up and reveal your true feelings today. If you are not happy with something, or someone, then say so. Don't make it hard for others to read your mood.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone older and wiser will give you some valuable advice today and if you are smart you will take it. You may be doing well but you could be doing even better.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Others may say you are being too careful, and maybe you are, but don't change your ways to please them. Looked at from another perspective, they're taking too many chances.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may want to help someone in need but some people prefer to suffer in silence than admit they need assistance. Respect their wishes.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be sad that something, or someone, is going out of your life but don't shed too many tears. The good news is that something, or someone, even better will come along to fill it.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Your viewpoint on an important issue will change dramatically over the next 48 hours — you may even end up at the opposite end of the opinion spectrum to where you are now.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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